SOME ASPECTS REGARDING THE GLOBALISATION PHENOMENON

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Abstract

The main purpose of this study is to theoretically capture the main issues related to globalization and regionalization. In this paper, as shown in the literature, globalization is seen as a game with many players. The question which seeks an answer is whether this process amount is positive, negative or zero. Often the answer to the question is contradictory and well argued. The power is inherent in all social systems and all human relationships. But the equal power is a unlikely condition and even if it is done, will soon generate new inequalities. In fact, perfect equality is not only impossible but also undesirable because if the pace of change would be the same for all states, this trend will not involve major changes in the world evolution.

Keywords: globalization, economic development, mondialization, regionalization

1. Introduction

At the beginning of the millennium, humanity is moving towards a new era; complex phenomena are dominating the political, economic, social, military and cultural world. The contemporary world is one of interdependence and total change reflected in the intensification of trade, investment and technology between different regions, the development of intercultural relations, facilitating contacts between people and others.

Two major phenomena now dominates the planet: globalization, perhaps the most controversial concept of recent years and regionalization, a more familiar term in economic and scientific environments, both with great resonance in defining modern society.

In the literature, the terms of globalization, mondialization and regionalization are often used with different meanings from one author to another, in some meanings they become too inclusive in others are highly simplified and often controversial issues for analysts, globalization, mondialization and regionalization are a reality of the contemporary world. Sometimes the terms of globalization and mondialization are accepted as synonyms, sometimes the relationship would seem to be the whole or greater part, the globalization is seen as a step in the mondialization process.

Defarges P.M. states that French literature promotes the concept of mondialization (mondialisation) and the Anglo-American prefers the globalization (Globalisation) to describe and characterize the same phenomenon. In his view, globalization is characterized by "... the expansion and acceleration of flows: goods, services, information, ideas, values ... and the frenzy of travel (tourism, temporary or permanent emigration)" [1].

In another train of thoughts, the globalization is approached as a geopolitical, geo-economic and cultural phenomenon. This process deprives governments of some of their powers and ensure integration of economies into a global system. The very concept of "national economy" changes its meaning, the basic global economic institution becoming transnational corporation and megacorporation placing their subsidiaries and markets its products where performance is certain, without taking into account the existence of national borders. The globalization entails new challenges. By increasing interdependence in international relations, the concept of "national and international security" gets more complex meanings. Maintaining global stability and providing assistance in the establishment of international mechanisms to ensure sustainable and equitable development will become a priority for regional communities.

The globalization phenomenon is thus regarded as a later stage of the overall process of political, economic and cultural development of mankind. This paper stresses that, for the moment, it is difficult to assess with certainty the long-term effects of the process of globalization on the international community. As outlined by JE Stiglitz [2], one fact is clear: the globalization is neither good nor bad. This phenomenon has a dual effect on the world: one positive, meaning that the interaction between countries will increase more and will create new opportunities for the development of human civilization, especially in the economic field, and one negative, due to the fact that once with evolution, will expand even more the threats dimension at regional or even planetary level.
2. Globalization, a phenomenon of our century?

The last quarter of the last century seems to be remembered in history under the name of the great war of independence from space. At the end of the war mobility became the most powerful stratification factor, respectively, the one that determines change and daily ranking of social, economic, political and culture components. Moving into the space in a world record time generates great privileges to the economic entities that have this possibility. Those at the very top have maximum freedom of movement, which brings them great advantages over competition.

Albert J. Dunlop, the famous author of modern enterprise "rationalization", claimed that the big win belongs to the investors that are exempt from the limitation of space, can buy and sell securities, regardless of the distance to the office. "The company belongs to the people who invest in it, not to the employees, suppliers or village in which it is located." In his view, employees are selected from the local population and by the family and home duties that they have could not follow the company for its relocation. The local suppliers provides sourcing to the company and transport costs are very important to them, so that when customers (the receiving companies) change their address, their comparative advantage disappears. Settlement by its nature, will remain static, regardless of the destination of the new company. Only the investors can move freely in those areas that offer the greatest gains. The effects of space victory are determined by who is free to escape the village is free to run of the consequences also.

In the literature, globalization is presented as a very complex phenomenon as it affects to varying degrees, many areas that currently define life: economic, political, social, military, technological, environmental, interpersonal, cultural. For example: John Tomlinson revealed in his works, the multidimensional character of globalization from an environmental problem, namely the problem of degradation of the ozone layer due to the use of Freon to support the production of refrigerators and sprays. The recognition of the effects of these chemicals on the ozone layer is a global issue, involving the "compression globe" as Steven Yarley suggested. This means that the users of products incorporating freon, especially coming from developed countries are the main culprits of pollution, a phenomenon which may degrade "the neighbors that are, geographically, at a distance of thousands of miles on this planet." Because of its consequences it has also become a technological problem because it has not been found in a relatively short time, a chemical alternative, as a "solution" to the drawbacks arising from the refrigerant. Once with the advent of multiple alternatives were generated international political issues in an attempt to conclude a treaty to regulate the use of Freon. Differences emerged during the negotiations between the economic interests of freon producing nations and consumers of such products [6].

The agreement for solving the environmental issues has generated a conflict of interest between the "First World" and "Third World" about economic aid that developed countries should pay to poor countries to encourage them to use new technologies that do not use freon.

Looking on history, the question arise, to what extent geographical, natural and artificial boundaries of territorial units, the distinction between "outside" and "inside" and other traditional elements of geography were derived conceptual of freedom of movement? Paul Virilio recently suggested that, if it seems too early to talk about the "end of history" announced by Francis Fukuyama, today we earnestly talk about the "end of geography" because the distances are no longer relevant [7].

Now, when the communication time fell to the size of a moments space and its distinctive elements does not matter, even for those whose actions support speed electronic messages. Currently, the trend of the world universalization is obvious. It is powerful the one that dominates a particular economic sector worldwide, which uses the latest techniques and instruments, which sets worldwide business that uses any means to obtain the expected results. Approximately 80% of the world population is English-speaker, although not required by anyone in particular, the world has realized that it needs to establish a common language in order to establish other common objectives on a global scale. Is not that a proof of universalization? There are many examples. Many authors believe that being limited to the geostate space means to reduce any chance of existence on a long term.

3. Views on globalization and its outlook

Globalization has replaced the Cold War as the arena of ongoing debates on the principles of social development, nations and international organizations [9]. Globalization has become the most pressing issue of our time, constituting in fact not just a phenomenon but a continuous process of transition towards a new model of development, based on a new structure networks. Some marvels, others agonize, fascination and anguish twentieth century and continuing into the new millennium.
So, for signs of transition to a new type of global economy - namely the global, experts have different opinions on this fact.

About the twentieth century, Yehudi Menuhin said: "aroused the greatest hopes ever conceived by mankind and destroyed all illusions and ideals". Beginning, but equally deep end of the last century marked the contemporary conscience. With the end of the Cold War, the old ideology that separated the world into two blocks longer be stopped to all Member declaring and in fact, membership in global markets. Hopes and euphoria that dominated, especially Europe and the North American continent in the period immediately following the fall of the Berlin Wall when many were tempted to adopt the wonderful vision of a new golden age. There were few who, around 1990, spoke of the end of a period called "Belle Epoque" and lived a long anguish that seemed hostile.

Today, the famous British historian Eric Hobsbawm has no doubt that, in the late 1980s and early 1990s ended an era in history and began another.

Francis Fukuyama is more categorical than English history and affirms that: "we are not only witnessing the end of the Cold War or the conclusion of a particular period of postwar history, but the end of history as such". He was speaking, "the end of history", suggesting an entry mankind, "golden age" unprecedented economic development and the spread of political democracy, as these processes and concepts are perceived by the Western world.

Former Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Perez, believes that: "human society is moving towards a monumental change from the beginning of the XXI century'.

Professor of sociology at Stanford University, John Meyer, believes that: "we have not started a century, but a new era", here refers to the development towards a global information society which will create a new economic, political and social. He believes that ultra exchanging information and data networking opportunity to intensify ties between nations and businesses distances become insignificant diversified thus a free market economy. Also, the information revolution determining global trade and foreign investment at a tremendous growth rate. Simultaneously with this increase the level of training, and employee productivity on a global scale. It thus forms a global middle class that has the same conception of economic development and a similar image on human rights. But behind this amazing development lies a powerful idea driving. It is the openness of the market economy. Almost everywhere in the world, governments pursue a liberal economic policy, international trade and multinational corporations accelerates ideas and innovations. All this gives the impression that the market economy can not be stopped.

Surprisingly to many, in his book, about globalization. Economy and Society", George Soros made a relentless critical defects, global capitalism," though he won fabulous sums of speculation in financial markets, , , Is needed, says Soros, another type of coalition to strengthen and reform the international financial and trade institutions, not to destroy them. "The purpose of development assistance and the provision of global public goods, Soros proposes using SDR - Special Drawing Rights, the central element of the new system architecture, , , Today globalization is not working. Not working for the world's poor. Not working environment. Does not work for the stability of the global economy, " argues in his work, globalization. Hopes and Disappointments, " Professor Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate for Economics in 2001, former adviser to Bill Clinton, who, in November 1999, resigned from his post as chief economist and vice president of the World Bank. Based on the experience gained in the White House and the World Bank, the author presents more precisely the contribution of the main institutions responsible for the failure of globalization on countries that they would have had to serve. It shows that global economic rules of the game are often established only to the interests of the advanced industrialized countries and certain private interests within them, not those of the world in development. For, indeed, globalization has not only placed the economy over all, but it did so with the vision of fanaticism market economy. Austerity policy, capital market liberalization and privatization are applied blindly, despite their proven failure in most countries, especially in countries in transition and in the South.

4. Brief assessments on globalization effects

The economic literature on globalization is very ample, it contains well documented works and grounded personal opinions, developed after deep research and analysis. Perhaps no other issue is more topical and controversial than that of globalization and regionalization. Whether they are economic, political, social, cultural, demographic or military issues, globalization becomes a cause and also a result of all the processes discussed.

Studies show that the effects caused by this phenomenon are multiple. Globalization is a fact that includes in it the whole world. The question most frequently is whether globalization is a phenomenon that generates wealth and the opportunities for all individuals or perceived positive effects of low population category are obtained by sacrifices of the greatest part of mankind? The arguments and counter-arguments that support an idea or another are credible because they are based on reliable data and value judgments, but sometimes it happens that interpretations are more developed than what reality offers its overall. In other words, they are not scientifically interpreted only...
some reliable data, but are issued and personal opinions - more or less objective - on the subject addressed. Some authors argue that globalization is a race, because very few participants benefit from its advantages despite the fact that everyone is involved and the gap between rich and poor grows even more [4].

Its advocates see it as a positive sum game because there will be no losers, only winners in this global competition. Many authors believe that overall, globalization is a negative sum game, or at most zero, because the efforts and sacrifices are general, but the positive effects belong to a very small segment of the world population and are distributed very uneven.

It is particularly important the position that each state has launched in this competition. If all nations come to "the end of the race and there are not recorded dropouts it can be said that globalization is a positive sum game." Each state involved will benefit even if not in the same proportion. "The global cake slices" will not be as great for everyone. Although it will be as huge sacrifices and compromises, I appreciate that globalization is a necessary objective, in which we are all involved, and its results largely depend on the efforts for it to follow an optimal path for the benefit of all [4].

However, it cannot be denied the dominant position of some states in this process, but as long as they can bring a decisive contribution in solving problems in certain areas, it is normal that the benefits to be higher and not equal for all participants. The contemporary world is one of interdependence, according to experts it does not exist at the moment another solution better than globalization and regionalization.

Bibliographical sources show that the planet is facing big problems (poverty, pollution, cross-border crime, infant mortality, terrorism and so on) that can only be solved globally. The geographical distribution of these negative phenomena is very different, which is why the efforts made and the resulted effects will not have the same visibility in all areas and at the same time. It seems that a more efficient way than the common one on these issues was not identified. In fact, although some phenomena act locally, their consequences are perceived globally.

On the other hand, some globalization characteristic elements as increasing economic exchanges by adopting some transparent trade policies, the expansion of transnational corporations by increasing foreign investment, the international finance, so on, brings very different benefits to the process participants. In this case, the degree of economic development of the countries, weighs heavily in distribution the effects resulted from globalization. As already noted, such a situation is normal, at various efforts to achieve different effects. The important thing is that everybody wins. If you were to issue an optimistic conclusion, it would be that globalization involves the whole planet and every participant is a winner. [8]

5. Short conclusions regarding the globalization process

More than ever, the world has become on its most important aspects a single social system, the result of ties of interdependence that affects every individual.

Globalization can not be regarded only as a simple process of increasing global unity. It should be understood primarily as a reordering of time and space in social life.

Nowadays, the competition for controlling some territories, areas of raw materials and cheap labor is subordinated to a new battle the one for possession of information that tends to bring significant changes in economic, political or military strategies. In the last years, the economic courts have endangered the stability of the state due to the emergence of new forms of movement of capital, which were named by multinational corporations/transnational [3]. These forms make that investment decisions often escape state control - the nation.

Globalization is a phenomenon that extends the determinant frames of social changes in the world as a whole. This phenomenon has profound social and political implications, being sometimes an excuse and an explanation way to convenient for antisocial policies and for the actions which undermine progress and divide the community. It leads to total loss of control over economic policy and corporate behavior, and it is sometimes accused of negative social consequences: rising unemployment, the gap between wages and profits, the underground economy, so on. In 1960, 20% income gap between the richest countries and 20% of the world's poorest countries was 30 to 1, in 1990 the gap increased to 60 to 1, and at the end of the century was 75-1.

According to World Bank statistics, while the income of some countries in Sub-Saharan Africa fell in the last 20 years by 0.7% per year, the average income in the industrialized countries increased by 25% per year. More and more families are threatened by hunger and malnutrition because of the lack of employment, social benefits or low wages, while great magnates wealth grows in geometric progression with ratio over-unit. The globalization mission is not to falsify the truth but to find viable solutions to create a modern society where the fundamental rights are respected.

In conclusion, the globalization and regional integration is a reality of the contemporary world involving all countries. The benefits and costs of these processes are numerous as we have found in this paper. Between them there is no relationship of exclusion, any state can be a member of one or more groups at the same time, participating
actively in the process of globalization. The two phenomena coexist, sometimes overlapping and try to offer the best alternative to the future of mankind.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**