

## ***What is Globalization and what does it give us?***

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The world history has always experienced the crucial factor of global trade. From the first time of the human history, the most powerful one has tried to colonize the others and gain the world resources for its interests. In that sense, it is not a new phenomenon that the west tries to dominate the rest of the world and order the world as a market place.

In modern times, the world had seen the era of empire until the end of the First World War. There were several empires which ruled the world and regulate the world trade issue. However, when that system collapsed, the world order required new institutions, new rules and new actors in order to continue the world trade. In that sense, the political actors found their benefits in ordering the domestic affairs because of the trauma of the ending empire system. However, the global system experienced several problems as Cooper talks about: “Domestic order was purchased at the price of international anarchy.”<sup>1</sup> Therefore; there should be a system which includes the international order means in terms of economics and politics.

### I

In order to establish the world order, the system used to be based on hegemony and balance. In terms of Cooper’s explanation hegemony came first from the ancient world. Under the order of hegemon, there were culture, civilization but outside of it, there were barbarians, chaos and disorder; he argues.<sup>2</sup>

In that sense, if we look at the Cooper’s categorizing the world order, there are three types of states:

- Pre-modern state
- Modern state
- Post-modern state

By the meaning of modern state, Cooper refers to Weber’s arguments about the state as an institution holds the monopoly of using legitimated violence.<sup>3</sup> In that sense, in the first stage, states are weak or failed, so they lost the monopoly power of their using legitimated

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<sup>1</sup> Robert Cooper, “The New Liberal Imperialism,” *Observer Worldview*, (April 7, 2002), p.2.

<sup>2</sup> Cooper, “The New Liberal Imperialism,” p.1.

<sup>3</sup> Cooper, “The New Liberal Imperialism,” p.5.

violence. In the second stage, states are still holding the monopoly power to use the violence. However, in the last stage, the state does not require to use the legitimated violence. In other words, in the post-modern stage the order is based on free market economy and democracy. That stage has existed in the time of globalization. If we look at the explanation of Cooper for the post-modern state, we'll find those criteria<sup>4</sup>:

- The breaking down of the distinction between foreign and domestic affairs.
- Mutual interference in domestic affairs.
- The rejection of force to solve the disputes.
- The growing irrelevance of borders.
- Security is based on transparency and mutual openness.

As it was said above, most of those features of the post-modern state corresponds to globalization. In that sense, a multi-disciplinary explanation of globalization will take the picture in front of our eyes.

As Kaplinsky explains us that globalization includes very different orientations<sup>5</sup>. Such as:

- Globalization reduces the systemic barriers and all of the factors such as labor, capital, information, ideas, goods and services can easily flow everywhere.
- Globalization makes individuals, states, institutions, and nations more purposeful to pursue their objectives to widen areas where the national boundaries become blurring. The more global institutions can impose their values on people living in other countries.
- In terms of technology, globalization makes the technological complexity and advances more widespread.

Technology also revolutionizes the production process. It means that production of any commodity becomes more international. Therefore; the producers can gain the global reserve army as Marx said about capitalistic production. In that perspective, the capitalism becomes transnational and it can exploit the current positions of developing countries. Due to that reason, the production fields are moved from developed countries to developing countries in order to benefit from cheap labor market. At the end of the process, the old non-developed countries produce more than developed and industrialized countries. Shortly, in globalization era capitalism is able to use the technology, more global communication means, and international reserve army.

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<sup>4</sup> Cooper, "The New Liberal Imperialism," p.3.

<sup>5</sup> Raphael Kaplinsky, "Global Dynamics," *Globalization, Poverty and Inequality*, (Polity Press, 2005), pp.9-12

There is also a big threat to globalization includes the existence of pre-modern, moderns, and post-modern stages in the same time. Therefore; there should be a world order which should include the values of post-modern world. Cooper explains that ordering with the term of “double standards.”<sup>6</sup> In the post-modern world, the order should be based on the basis of law and values of democracy. However, outside the post-modern world, the methods of earlier period can be used. In other words, we can call this policy as a new kind of imperialism which means the democracy for yourself and violent for the others.

On the other hand, Cooper explains the post-modern imperialism in two forms: Firstly, there is voluntary imperialism of the global economy. Secondly, the imperialism of neighbors means that the more powerful state would engage the problem of its neighbor and set the rules in order to eliminate the threats to its system.<sup>7</sup>

Lastly, Cooper shows us the best model of political order in the post-modern or global world. He calls it as a co-operative empire. Unlike the empire before, no single authority or part dominates the others and the empire includes the framework of sharing political power.<sup>8</sup>

## II

In the economic side of the globalization, there are also serious problems for the future of the system. As it was tried to explain above, globalization forms itself with criterias of the free market economy which is called capitalism and of democracy. However, the big two sides of its structure require different things. For capitalism, the survivability of itself based on inequality and it creates *market-dominant minorities* in the rest of the world as Chua shows us.<sup>9</sup> As a result; it creates inequalities. However, on the side of the democracy, there is the requirement of equality in order to survive itself. Those two counter parts of the system produces struggle, especially in the developing and under-developed countries. Chua illustrates the responses in the rest of the world to the capitalism into three categories: “The first is a backlash against market, targeting the market-dominant minority’s wealth. The second is a backlash against democracy by forces to the market-dominant minority. The third is violence, sometimes genocidal, directed against the market-dominant minority itself.”<sup>10</sup>

There are also other problems in globalization era in terms of economic activities. In that sense, Naim illustrates us a very crucial event which is called the illicit trade by him. He

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<sup>6</sup> Cooper, “The New Liberal Imperialism,” p.4.

<sup>7</sup> Cooper, “The New Liberal Imperialism,” p.6.

<sup>8</sup> Cooper, “The New Liberal Imperialism,” p.7.

<sup>9</sup> Amy Chua, “Introduction,” *World on Fire*, (New York: Doubleday, 2003), p.6.

<sup>10</sup> Amy Chua, “Introduction,” p.10.

gives us the picture and tries to eliminate the three illusions about illicit trade. Firstly, he says that illicit trade is a very old phenomenon and from the ancient time there has been a “*thieves market*” but there is a big transformation after 1990s. He says those changes in political and economic life have dissolved the traditional power of governments to control their territories.

Secondly, he talks about the second illusion about crime. He argues that: “Global criminal activities are transforming the international system, upending the rules, creating new players, reconfiguring power in international politics and economics.”<sup>11</sup>

He gives an example about global crime in illicit trade network: The USA attacked Iraq since Saddam had acquired mass destruction weapons but in the same time, a network led by A. Q. Khan, a Pakistani engineer, was selling nuclear bomb-making technology.<sup>12</sup>

The third illusion is about the illicit trade as an underground phenomenon. He argues that it becomes more systemic and traditional nation state system is not able to challenge with illicit trade. Therefore; there should be the new kinds of organizations which are based on multilateral co-operation and transparency between the members about security issue. Illicit trade also gives means to terrorist and other dangerous organizations to keep finding resources to finance themselves.<sup>13</sup>

### III

In conclusion, the process which we call it globalization transports many means, tools, implications for the existed societies and for the future. For the existed societies, the innovation in technology increases the opportunities in communication, and production. There is a new kind of division of labor which is in international level and the international trade becomes a global market. Globalization is also a process and it naturally rejects the dominance of any single country or nation. However, it includes the excessive power of international capital which pursuits its benefit all around the world. There is also the phenomenon of blurring borders, increasing power of NGOs, and wealthy individual networks, illicit trade networks. In that sense, all of these phenomenon will bequeath to the next generations of the world populations.

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<sup>11</sup> Moisés Naim, “Chapter 1,” *Illicit*, (New York: Doubleday, 2005), pp.3-6.

<sup>12</sup> Moisés Naim, “Chapter 1,” p.5.

<sup>13</sup> Moisés Naim, “Chapter 1,” p.8.