

Globalism: connecting or separating?

Globalism influences almost every part of our daily lives: What we buy in the supermarket, what we see in TV and what we hear from the news. Have you ever wondered, how you can buy pineapples in winter? Or in the region you are living? Have you ever asked yourself, why there are just a few companies dominating whole markets?

Globalism has developed during the last 200 years, starting off from times of colonization and industrialization. The influence of states decreased, while the impact of industries and companies increased. The world got and still gets more connected. In some regions, this bettered quality of life. In some it did not.

In the last years, also digitalization played a big role in the “connection” of the world. Digitalization can be used as a summary for the information technology and its products which appear more and more in our daily life, so our society changes fundamentally by being always online and using new techniques e. g. to communicate or solve problems. New ways to communicate change the way we perceive our environment.

New and old nationalist movements try to gain followers by using globalism as a scapegoat. They say, globalism and globalization make our life less individual and more dependent. These arguments are rather subjective and recognize just one side of the situation. Still, there are facts that really speak against the concept of a globalized world: The richer states getting even richer, while the poorer one stand at the rim of collapse and total economic downfall.

You may be wondering, what the differences of globalism and globalization are. While globalization refers to the global interlacing of markets and cultures, globalism focuses on the effects of the loss of significance of states and the rise of the power of world-connected companies, so called global players.

In present times, facing the growth of nationalist movements and the change of working conditions in the time of digitalization and globalization, we have to discuss the role of huge companies in connection to the states and politics as well as the effects of these changes.

However, we also should focus on the consequences for the states. Their reactions differ from case to case and they often are forced to look for new ways to deal with an issue. As a result, IGOs are formed and states combine their knowledge and abilities in alliances to handle the situations and problems which occur. So, the consequences of Globalism's influence could be seen as the downfall of independent states and the rise of international alliances trying to guarantee order in the world and being in conflict with global players' influence. Thereby we can also discuss, whether the time of states has ended and the time of companies has begun.

As a conclusion, Globalism influences our lives in many ways. It makes it easier and provides the societies of different nations with new opportunities and connects them on new levels. Different treaties and agreements strengthen the ties between the nations of the earth. But, Globalism also increase the gap between richer and poorer people, richer and poorer nations and bigger and smaller companies.

Therefore, the Secretaries General have decided on the Conference Theme of the twenty-first edition of MUNOL to be "Globalism: connecting or separating?".

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Leonard Roemer'.

Leonard Roemer

Secretary General

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'J. Willert'.

Johannes Willert

Deputy Secretary General