

# Positive and negative effects of globalisation



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There has been continuous international debate over the impact of globalisation on the world. Different people interpret the concept of globalisation itself differently. Some view it solely as a trend in economy, which lifted the restrictions and led to the production of a new market system. Others consider it a process of growing international interconnection, which manifests itself in a number of ways - from the introduction of formerly alien cultures to increased immigration to certain areas (Seabrook, 2001). There's no denying the fact that the force of globalisation produces both positive and negative effects.

Speaking about the positive effects of globalisation, mention must be made of the fact that it made possible the creation of a global market. This unified marketplace in its turn allows countries to sell services and goods of their specialization to clients worldwide. It is certainly a benefit for many countries as they can concentrate their economic activity on their most competitive products while still having other goods available. In the long run, globalisation is a promise of prosperity for the countries that are willing to make the most of the open and unified marketplace.

Another important aspect to be mentioned is that globalisation encourages competition and promotes improvement of the quality of goods offered, as it is a deciding factor of success on the global market. The opportunity to specialize in a certain area while still having access to a multitude of other products undoubtedly is a significant positive effect of globalisation.

However, the critics of globalization argue that such market situation only serves to further enrich the wealthy while the poor are plunged into the depth of poverty (Ellwood, 2003).

Proponents of globalisation also argue that it helps overcome cultural barriers and enhance peace-building in the world. However, there is a downside to it: while a monoculture is created local traditions are erased. Substantial damage to the environment as well as spreading drug abuse are also mentioned as negative effects of globalisation (UN World Youth Report, 2003) In conclusion, globalisation is a real and dynamic process, bringing about sweeping changes worldwide. While it produces both positive and negative effects, through adequate action it is possible to enhance the former and alleviate the latter.