

BIGMUN 2024
GA2

Research Report

Topic 3: Identifying the possible risks towards sustainable growth
through globalization and interdependence.



By Nitya Khandelwal and Sebastian van Beek-Isaksson

Outline:

1. Introduction
2. Definition of Key Terms
3. Background Information
4. Major Countries and Organisations Involved
5. Relevant UN Resolutions
6. Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue
7. Possible Solutions
8. Bibliography

Introduction:

The processes of interconnectedness and globalization have shaped social, political, and economic dynamics and are now an essential component of the contemporary world. Although these factors have facilitated unparalleled expansion and interconnectivity, they also pose possible threats to sustainable growth. The purpose of this paper is to examine and discuss the hazards that have been linked to interdependence and globalization, with a focus on the necessity of a comprehensive and well-balanced strategy to guarantee sustainable growth.

Definition of Key Terms:

Globalization:

The interconnectedness and interdependence of nations through the exchange of goods, services, information, and ideas on a global scale.

Interdependence:

The mutual reliance and interconnected relationships among nations in various aspects, such as economic, political, and social spheres.

Sustainable Growth:

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Background Information:

In response to the significant changes reshaping the world, the problem of recognizing hazards towards sustainable growth through globalization and interdependence has developed. Globalization's historical origins may be seen in the Silk Road and other old trade routes that allowed for the easy movement of products and ideas across different parts of the world. On the other hand, the modern period of globalization accelerated in the second part of the 20th century due to advances in technology, trade policy liberalization, and heightened financial

interdependence.

As countries looked to maximize the potential for economic growth through increasing international commerce and collaboration, the early phases of globalization were characterized by optimism. To promote a sense of shared prosperity, organizations such as the World Commerce Organization (WTO) were established with the goal of establishing a rules-based framework for international commerce. The uneven distribution of advantages became apparent as globalization advanced. Unintended outcomes included differences in social circumstances, economic progress, and income disparity. Furthermore, as the effects of economic activity on the environment spread across national boundaries, environmental issues acquired importance.

Trade conflicts and geopolitical concerns among major economies have highlighted the difficulties in managing interdependence in recent decades. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the necessity for robust systems to withstand unforeseen interruptions and highlighted weaknesses in international supply networks.

During these phases, the debate has moved from being about excitement about the potential benefits of interconnection to being about a more nuanced awareness of the associated concerns. Currently, ensuring that globalization promotes sustainable progress without jeopardizing the welfare of nations and the environment is a complex task that calls for an all-encompassing and cooperative strategy. Delegates are invited to think about the historical backdrop that has formed the contemporary dynamics of globalization and interdependence as we dig into the details of this history.

Major Countries and Organisations Involved:

United States:

As a global economic powerhouse, the United States plays a pivotal role in shaping international trade policies and influencing the dynamics of globalization. The U.S. typically seeks to maintain and expand its economic influence while addressing concerns related to domestic employment and trade imbalances.

China:

Rapid economic growth has positioned China as a central player in global trade, investment, and technological advancements. China aims to secure its economic interests, promote technological leadership, and enhance its geopolitical influence on the global stage.

European Union:

The EU, with its collective economic strength, actively engages in international trade negotiations and discussions on sustainable development. The EU prioritizes a balance between

economic growth and environmental sustainability, advocating for fair trade practices and social inclusivity.

World Trade Organization:

The WTO establishes the rules for global trade, providing a forum for negotiations and dispute resolution. The WTO aims to promote open and fair-trade practices, resolving trade disputes and facilitating economic growth among member nations.

Relevant UN Resolutions:

One attempt at interconnectedness is the World Health Organisation (WHO) which is a specialized agency of the United Nations that works on international public health issues, including disease prevention, health system, and global health emergencies. Along with this they help with the public health infrastructure in countries, which helps improve the overall well-being and productivity in the countries it works in.

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue:

Fairtrade international: A global movement that promotes fair and ethical trading partnerships, ensuring fair wages and working conditions for producers in developing countries.

Possible Solutions:

- Investment in sustainable technology: Encourage research and development of sustainable technologies to reduce the environmental impact of production processes and transportation.
- Provide incentives for businesses to adopt cleaner and more efficient technologies.
- Global governance and Regulation: Strengthen international cooperation and governance structures to regulate and monitor multinational corporations.
- Develop and enforce international standards for business practices, environmental protection, and human rights.

Bibliography:

Altman, Steven A., and Caroline R. Bastian. "The State of Globalization in 2022."

Harvard Business Review, 12 Apr. 2022, hbr.org/2022/04/the-state-of-globalization-in-

2022.

Bhattacharya, Arindam, et al. "Going beyond the Rhetoric." *BCG Global*, 8 June 2020, www.bcg.com/publications/2017/new-globalization-going-beyond-rhetoric.

The Economist. "Globalisation Is Dead and We Need to Invent a New World Order." *The Economist*, 28 June 2019, www.economist.com/open-future/2019/06/28/globalisation-is-dead-and-we-need-to-invent-a-new-world-order.

United Nations. "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." *United Nations*, 25 Sept. 2015, sdgs.un.org/2030agenda.

World Economic Forum. "Global Risks Report 2018." *World Economic Forum*, 18 Apr. 2018, www.weforum.org/videos/global-risks-report-2018/. Accessed 21 Jan. 2024.