Globalization and Social Stress

6th International Conference

Organizers: TIGER & YALE University

Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management (WSPiZ)
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I. Outline of the project:

Globalization – or the gradual process of the liberalization and integration of hitherto separate markets for capital, goods and (to a lesser extent) labor into one worldwide market – seems to be irreversible. However, despite its importance for the reinvigoration of the growth of the world economy over the long term, this process will face many obstacles if the fruits of the increase in trade and output will not be shared in a more equitable way.

The mounting anti-globalist sentiment that has become evident recently does not necessarily represent the attitudes of various irresponsible actors – a breed of ‘rebels without a cause’ – as is often suggested, especially in the advanced countries. In fact, there is real cause to be dissatisfied. On the one hand, globalization has contributed -- through more efficient capital allocation and more profitable international trade -- to faster growth and decrease in poverty in a number of developing countries over the last decades. Alas, on the other hand, it has also led to growing inequality between people and among nations thus increasing social stress and sowing the seeds of a global disorder. Globalization in its various dimensions increasingly seems to foster financial crises, contribute to marginalization of poor countries in the global community, increase uncontrolled migration, and facilitate international terrorism.

Hence, a number of questions arise concerning the policies and instruments, which could limit the social stress, poverty, political and economic disenchantment, and economic disorder in developing countries: What can be done both to sustain the rapid rate of growth of the world economy while improving the distribution of income? What can be done – from the
perspective of the new international economic and institutional order, as well as supranational policy coordination – to prevent financial crises, fight marginalization, control immigration, and secure durable and more equitable growth? What should be the role of the leading international organizations and global non-government institutions in the fight against poverty, promotion of international trade and in the effort to improve the standard of living of people in the emerging-market countries, which are attempting to reap advantage from globalization and catch up with the developed part of the world economy? Is there “a human face to globalization” and where are we to look for it?

Globalization brings both, more chances and more risks into the process of social development and economic growth. Its causes additional gains and costs for all parties involved in this endeavor. Hence, the question arises what is the crucial factor shaping the balance of these trends? At the onset of the 21st century the picture of ongoing globalization, and the way its fruits are being shared between the nations and particular social strata seems to be somehow more complex and bleak than it had been just couple of years before. What are the implications of such a change and what impact is the world supposed to expect from this change?

II. Preliminary list of the conference panels:

1. Migration and Human Development
2. Globalization and EU Accession
3. Globalization and Poverty
4. Globalization, Natural Resources and Institutional Choice

III. Preliminary list of participants:

1. Robert A. Mundell, 1999 Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics, C. Lowell Harriss Professor of Economics, Columbia University, New York, USA.
2. Isher Judge Ahluwalia, Maryland School of Public Affairs, Maryland, USA
3. Laszlo Csaba, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
4. Gang Fan, Director of the National Institute of Economic Research, China Reform Foundation, Beijing, China
5. Grzegorz W. Kolodko, Director of TIGER, Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management (WSPiZ), Warsaw, Poland, and John C. Evans Scholar in Polish and European Studies, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA
6. Tadeusz Kowalik, Polish Academy of Sciences and WSPiZ, Warsaw, Poland
7. Nguyuru H. I. Lipumba, Senior Research Fellow, The Multi-Environmental Society (MESO), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
8. Alexander Nekipelov, Director, Institute for International Economic and Political Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia
9. Prof. D. Mario Nuti, University di Roma ‘La Sapienza’ and London Business School
10. Gur Ofer, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel
11. Rodrigo Vergara, Centro de Estudios Publicos and Universidad Catolica de Chile, Santiago, Chile

**Yale University:**
1. Arun Agarwal, Political Science
2. David Cameron, Political Science and Director, European Union Studies
3. Anna Grzymala-Busse, Political Science
4. Keith Darden, Political Science
5. Pauline Jones-Luong, Political Science
6. Gustav Ranis, Economics and Director, YCIAS
7. T. N. Srinivasan, Economics
8. Ivan Szelenyi, Sociology