**Topic: Four factors stimulating globalization**

**Globalization**

Globalization is the worldwide movement toward economic, financial, trade, and communications integration.

* Though scholars place the origins of globalization in modern times, others trace its history long before the European Age of Discovery and voyages to the New World. Large-scale globalization began in the 19th century. In the late 19th century and early 20th century, the connectivity of the world's economies and cultures grew very quickly.
* Globalization is the extension of social relations across world-space, it has been practiced and socially understood through changing world-time.
* Globalization is the process of international integration arising from the interchange of world views, products, ideas and mutual sharing, and other aspects of culture.
* Advances in transportation, such as the steam locomotive, steamship, jet engine, container ships, and in telecommunications infrastructure, including the rise of the telegraph and its modern offspring, the Internet, and mobile phones, have been major factors in globalization, generating further interdependence of economic and cultural activities.

**Types of globalization**

There are four types of globalization which are:

1. Cultural
2. Political
3. Economic
4. Social

**Cultural globalization**

Cultural globalization is the rapid bridging of ideas, behaviour and values which focuses on the cultural movement and cultural values across the national borders.

* The advance usage of science and technology in communications have helped propagate the globalization especially in cultural aspect or we can say that **the mass media and communication technologies are the primary tools for cultural globalization.**
* Countries are exposed to foreign ideas, practices, and lifestyles.
* One of the obvious innovations is the development of computer technology with its **social networking sites, blogging sites, video sharing websites**, and various other innovations.
* Using all of the facilities, the people all around the world can connect and communicate each other in just a few seconds.
* Many people use the facilities of e-mail so that they can chat with their loved ones although they are far from each other.
* There are plenty of ‘chat rooms' or messenger services which can be chosen such as yahoo messenger, gmail, msn, facebook and so on. With the help of such service, it has become very easy to introduce a kind of global friendship where people can share their thought or in other words, they can explore the other cultures of different ethnicity from all over the world.
* This sharing accelerates the cultural globalization as there are no boundaries on the World Wide Web. Besides that, advances in transportation has also facilitated physical travel to other countries. This encourages cross-cultural exchanges.

**Political globalization**

By tradition, politics has been undertaken within national political structure. National governments have been eventually in charge for maintaining the security and economic wellbeing of their society, as well as the defense of human rights and the environment within their limits. With worldwide environmental changes, raising of integrated global economy and the other global trends, political action progressively take place at the global stage. Under globalization, politics can goes on above the state through political integration schemes such as the European Union and through intergovernmental associations. For instance, the International Monetory Fund, The World Bank and The World Trade Organization (WTO). Besides that, political action can also go beyond the national borders through global development and NGOs.

**Economic globalization**

Economic globalization refers to raising of economic interdependence of national economies across the globe as a result of a rapid increase in cross-border movement of goods, service, technology and capital. This process of increasing economic integration between countries, directing to the appearance of a global marketplace or a single world market. This type of globalization consists of the globalization of production, markets, competition, technology, and corporations and industries. It also reflects the continuing expansion and mutual integration of market frontiers, and is irreversible trend for the economic development in the whole world in this millennium era. The major driving force of economic globalization is the fast growing significance of information in all types of productive activities and marketization. In recent years, the rapid globalization of the world's economies is largely based on the fast development of science and technologies, resulted in rapid spreading of market economic system.

Meanwhile, the indicators of economic development are Gross Domestic Product(GDP), Gross National Product(GNP), and Purchasing Power Parity(PPP). GDP refers to the total output of a region and GNP refers to the total output of the nationals of a region. For instance, the income of workers located in another country would be included in the workers' home country GNP but not its GDP. The Gross National Product of a country can be either smaller or larger than its GDP depending on the amount of its citizens working outside its borders and the amount of other country's citizens working within its borders. When it is found that the GDP is larger than GNP, this means the substantial portion of the local economy are foreign-owned. The income earned within a country goes to the foreigners. The GDP may look healthy but GNP may well be anemic. This situation is very undesirable for a country since the control is ceded to the foreigners.

**Social globalization**

The social globalization generally focuses on the impact of globalization on the life and people's work, their families and their societies. Social development or the transformation of social cultures in a way which develops the capacity of the public to achieve the goal has improved especially in education system, health services, and laws. The improvement in educational system has contributed to the social globalization because many of the successful leaders or executives come from good learning institutions. Many infrastructures and facilities are build and added in the schools and learning institutions in order to improve the ways of teaching and learning. If a long time ago, teachers use chalks to write on the blackboard, today the marker pens are used on the whiteboard. Some schools also have their own computer laboratory for education purposes. Students are introduced to the new technologies since they are in schools so that they can develops their skills faster. There are also many other education facilities that can be used by the teachers to help in their teaching ways because some facilities can attract the students so that they pay full attention in the class.

Besides that, the health services also play an important role in social globalization. As the global economy improves, many countries can produce and support more qualified doctors in order to improve and modernise health and social care services. Many programmes are organized by health institutions to achieve the target such as organizing the health campaigns in the schools and companies. They also provide better facilities and health equipments in the clinics and hospitals. This service helps to increase the life expectancy of the society.

In 2000, the [International Monetary Fund](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Monetary_Fund) (IMF) identified four basic aspects of globalization:

1. [**trade**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trade) **and** [**transactions**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Financial_transaction)
2. [**capital**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capital_(economics)) **and** [**investment**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Investment) **movements**
3. [**migration**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_migration) **and movement of people**
4. **the dissemination of** [**knowledge**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knowledge)

### **Causes:**

### Main reasons that have caused globalization

1. **Improved transport**, making global travel easier. For example, there has been a rapid growth in air-travel, enabling greater movement of people and goods across the globe.
2. [**Containerization**](http://www.economicshelp.org/blog/7637/trade/containerisation/)**.** From 1970, there was a rapid adoption of the steel transport container. This reduced the costs of inter-modal transport making trade cheaper and more efficient.
3. **Improved technology** which makes it easier to communicate and share information around the world.
4. **Growth of multinational companies** with a global presence in many different economies.
5. **Growth global trading blocks** which have reduced national barriers. (e.g. European Union, NAFTA, ASEAN)
6. **Reduced tariff barriers** encouraging global trade. Often this has occurred through the support of the [WTO](http://www.economicshelp.org/trade/wto.html).
7. Growth of **global media**.
8. **Global trade cycle**. Economic growth is global in nature. This means countries are increasingly interconnected. (e.g. recession in one country affects global trade and invariably causes an economic downturn in major trading partners.
9. **Improved mobility of capital**.  In past few decades there has been a general reduction in capital barriers, making it easier for capital to flow between different economies. This has increased the ability for firms to receive finance. It has also increased the global interconnectedness of global financial markets.
10. **Increased mobility of labour**. People are more willing to move between different countries in search for work. Global trade [remittances](http://www.economicshelp.org/blog/6784/economics/economic-impact-of-migrants/) now play a large role in transfers from developed countries to developing countries.

**Conclusion**

What impact is globalization likely to have on the long-term possibilities of economic growth in developing countries? My vision of the growth process is that it takes off when the elite in a developing country comes to understand the opportunities of applying world-class technologies within their country, and introduces institutional arrangements that permit individual pursuit of self-interest to serve, in general, the social good. Once that happens the country is able to grow at a rapid rate, unless some political accident obstructs the process, until it catches up with best-practice technology, and therefore attains the living standards of the developed countries. Globalization is tending to make the technologies and the knowledge for this process to occur more readily available, and therefore to enable the process to be telescoped in time. (Singapore may be a small country, but there is no previous case in history of any country that did not enjoy massive resource discoveries