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Trends. Globalization: Good News for the Militarily, Environmentally, and Economically Challenged

IBPP Editor
bloomr@erau.edu

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With globalization comes increasing interdependence. With this interdependence comes increasing military, environmental, and economic threats from the weak.

Countries and other political entities that are militarily weak invite the hegemonic, imperialistic, and revanchist designs of the strong. Increasing interdependence necessarily suggests that the consequences of these designs will have greater international, regional, as well as local consequences. In concrete terms, some sort of political intervention from hot war to more elegant diplomacy and the appurtenances of aid makes more sense throughout the world for a real or alleged superpower, as well as other political entities that dare to become great. (The psychological closeness fostered by globalization seems to be impeding the dehumanization of others that is often implicated in the use of force by representative democracies and some autocracies.) Domino theories and other dynamic field theories of international relations seem more credible. And the weak hold the cards--playing off suitors, villains, and propositionists alike: witness United States Government (USG) intervention in locales such as Kuwait, Macedonia.

Countries and other political entities that are environmentally weak pose significant concerns to the environmentally strong. The threat of environmental disaster initiating from the weak and ignoring political boundaries is a great motivator. The weak hold the cards, and the gracious soliciting of various types of aid soon is transformed into the chicanery of the shakedown artist: witness USG intervention in the Ukraine and North Korea.

Countries and other political entities that are economically weak pose the threat of subverting or imploding international capital markets, trade, and economic growth. The ruler of an economically weak country can sit back and in a bemused fashion entertain the many gentlemen callers from foreign lands who pay him homage by their very presence and entreaties: witness USG intervention in Indonesia.

Yes. The era of globalization is good news for the weak. Poison pills are more easily available to ward off uninvited take-over artists. (See Herron, M.J., & Herron, W.G. (1982). Meanings of sadism and masochism. *Psychological Reports*, 50, 199-202; Mollinger, R.N. (1982). *Psychoanalytic Review*, 69, 379-389; Psychopolitical effects of globalization on power: When weakness becomes strength. *IBPP*, 1(14); Stolorow, R.D. (1975). The narcissistic function of masochism and sadism. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 56, 441-448.) (Keywords: Economics, Environment, Globalization, International Relations, Military, Security, Strategy)