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**The Wave of Globalization Over the Computing and Cybersecurity Industries**

Cultural and economic interdependence between separate populations has risen and fallen throughout human history, but not until the 20th century had it swollen to the degree that populations on opposite sides of the globe have significant cultural and economic ties to one another, forming the tidal wave that we now call globalization. This wave has crashed over all parts of modern culture and economy, not the least of which affected is the global computing industry as time flows into the 21st century.

The effects of globalization have provided ample opportunities for the advancement of the fields of computer science and information technology in places that likely would be far behind the curve of technological advancement had it not been for the phenomenon of globalization. Geopolitical forces have resulted in the United States being the center of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). However, over the past few decades, this industry has spread through globalization to be important in many national economies. "Offshoring," the practice of basing company activities overseas, by American companies in the 2000s meant that while the total number of ICT jobs was growing, they were growing slower or even declining in the United States, while in other regions (particularly in Asia), the ICT industry grew at an astounding rate (Lazonick 150). While the U.S was the center for ICT and was where many of the professionals in these Asian nations received their tertiary educations, the forces of globalization caused the wealth of the computing industry to spread through Asia. Lazonick identifies 3 aspects of globalization that lead to this result: foreign direct investment from multinational corporations, national investment in science and technology, and native companies building on the other aspects to become multinational corporations themselves (192). It has become apparent that all types of jobs in the computing industry are affected by globalization as many nations grow their own new computing industries to compete with those that have already been established. The best way to ensure that I don't suffer from the effects of globalization is to ensure that I never stop learning and stay at the forefront of the computing industry.

One way to do that could be to study cyber security. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of jobs available for information security analysts is expected to grow by 33% from 2020 to 2030, while the average growth rate is only 8%. It follows that becoming an excellent information security analyst by studying cyber security would ensure my job security despite the effects of globalization. "Closing the Cybersecurity Skills Gap" by Rebecca Vogel directly looks at the Cybersecurity industry. Vogel mentions that "Numerous government initiatives are in place to address the cyber skills shortage," (Vogel 41). This includes legislation to ensure that government cyber job opportunities can compete with private ones, various government programs to incentivize and motivate professionals to get into cybersecurity, as well as assessments of current computer science and cybersecurity curriculum in universities to better match the needs of the cybersecurity industry. From what I've discovered in Vogel's article, I've concluded that computer-related university degrees should focus more on cyber security and that I should seriously consider a career in cyber security.

The future of the computing industry appears to be bright. Globalization has led to a growing international community of professionals in the IT and computing industries. While some computing jobs are becoming rarer in the United States, there is no shortage of opportunities working in the computing sciences, particularly in the field of cyber security.

References

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