



UNIVERSITY OF THE PEOPLE

POLS-01 GLOBALIZATION - AY2024-T3

LEARNING JOURNAL UNIT 1

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Introduction: -

Globalization has brought increased economic integration between countries like the US and Mexico. However, the wage differential across borders incentivized dangerous illegal immigration, leading to conflict over migrant deaths versus border security. Exploring this case study shows how globalization's impacts can challenge policymakers to balance humanitarian and sovereignty imperatives. Globalization refers to the increasing connections between people, companies, and governments of different nations, driven by trade, investment, and information technology. This integration affects the environment, cultures, politics, economics, and human wellbeing globally. Globalization has positive and negative consequences across issues like ecological sustainability, cultural diversity, national sovereignty, economic equality, and public health priorities. Ultimately, it is a complex cycle linking societies worldwide through interdependent systems and shared risks and benefits (*What Is Globalization?*, 2023).

How globalization changed people's lives and led to conflict: -

Globalization led to increased economic opportunity and higher wages in the United States compared to Mexico. This wage differential incentivized many Mexicans to immigrate, legally or illegally, to the US in search of better-paying jobs to support their families back home. However, the dangerous border crossing led to many migrant deaths, causing conflict over how to balance border security with humanitarian concerns.

Proposed solutions and each party's satisfaction: -

Proposed Solution:

- Mexico published pamphlets and tips to provide guidance to migrants on how to more safely cross illegally into the United States. This included advising migrants to travel in

groups, bring adequate supplies, and follow specified routes and methods to reduce risks during the illegal border crossing.

Satisfaction for Mexico:

- Mexico was dissatisfied with the increasing number of migrant deaths during illegal border crossings into the US. The pamphlets were intended to help reduce the loss of life. However, Mexico faced criticism that providing tips for safer illegal immigration effectively encourages unlawful behavior. As such, Mexico's solution did not gain support from the US and likely did not fully satisfy their goals.

Satisfaction for the US:

- The US was already working to reduce illegal border crossings from Mexico. As such, they were very dissatisfied with Mexico's decision to publish guidance pamphlets aimed at migrants to help them cross illegally more safely. The US viewed this as promoting unlawful immigration rather than reducing or preventing it. So, the solution clearly did not align with the US interests on immigration policy and border security. Their strong criticism showed a lack of satisfaction with Mexico's approach.

Ways to avoid or resolve similar future conflicts: -

Improving economic opportunities in migrant-sending countries could reduce incentives to risk the dangerous border crossing. The US and Mexico could also work together to allow more legal avenues for immigration based on labor market needs. More paths to legal status for unlawfully present immigrants could also prevent dangerous repeat border crossings. Overall, collaborative policymaking between migrant-sending and migrant-receiving countries can balance security imperatives with humanitarian concerns.

Ways Sweden has become more globalized over time: -

Sweden has become deeply integrated into the global economy over recent decades. As a member of the EU single market, it trades extensively with fellow European states. Sweden has also increased trade and investment linkages with emerging markets. For example, Chinese companies like Volvo Cars and firms have significant operations in Sweden. Sweden's economy depends heavily on multinational corporations that straddle global supply chains. Cultural globalization is also evident, with rising immigration leading to greater diversity in Swedish society. Global media brands and platforms like Netflix and YouTube are popular among Swedes.

Visible results of this globalization today: -

Walk down a Swedish high street today, and globalization's impacts are visible. Shops feature consumer goods and international brands from across Europe and beyond. Sweden's largest immigrant groups have brought diverse cuisines and cultures. Volvo Cars' factory demonstrates Chinese investment in the Swedish economy. The embrace of English in universities and businesses shows Sweden connecting linguistically with the wider world. Although skepticism of globalization persists in some quarters, Sweden has opened itself to foreign influences - with visible effects for locals and tourists alike.

Conclusion: -

This case demonstrates globalization's potential to improve incomes yet also dislocate people from traditional livelihoods. Policymakers must appreciate these complex dynamics and constraints faced by governments of migrant-origin and migrant-destination countries. Collaborative, ethical approaches balancing security, economic, and humanitarian needs offer the best way forward in an increasingly interconnected world.

Reference:

What Is Globalization? (2023). World101 from the Council on Foreign Relations.

<https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/globalization/what-globalization>

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