Marxist theory, developed by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, examines society through the lens of class struggle. It posits that historical and social development is driven by conflicts between the bourgeoisie (owners of the means of production) and the proletariat (working class). According to Marx, capitalism inherently leads to exploitation, as the bourgeoisie extracts surplus value from the labor of the proletariat. The ultimate goal of Marxism is a classless, communist society where the means of production are collectively owned, eradicating social inequalities. Critics argue about the feasibility of Marx's vision and the role of individual agency in shaping societal change.

. While originally developed to understand the dynamics of capitalism within nation-states, Marxist principles can be applied to broader global structures, providing insights into issues such as economic inequality, imperialism, and the role of multinational corporations.Global Capitalism and Inequality: Marxist theory emphasizes the inherent contradictions within capitalism, particularly the unequal distribution of wealth and power. Applying this to the international arena, one can observe how global capitalism contributes to the perpetuation of economic inequality among nations. The concentration of wealth in a few powerful states and multinational corporations often leads to exploitative relationships with less economically developed countries.Imperialism and Exploitation: Marxist scholars argue that imperialism is an outgrowth of capitalism, with powerful nations exploiting weaker ones for resources and labor. The contemporary international system reflects this through neocolonial practices, where economically dominant nations exert influence over less developed regions, extracting resources and maintaining control through economic and political mechanisms.Class Struggle on a Global Scale: The Marxist perspective underscores the existence of class struggle not only within nations but also on a global scale. Transnational labor movements, international trade unions, and global advocacy for workers' rights can be seen as manifestations of this global class struggle. The struggles of workers in one part of the world can reverberate globally, challenging the structures of international capitalism.Multinational Corporations and Globalization: The rise of multinational corporations (MNCs) is a central aspect of the contemporary international system. Marxist theory helps elucidate how these entities, driven by profit motives, contribute to the shaping of global economic policies, often at the expense of local communities. Understanding the power dynamics between MNCs and nation-states is crucial in comprehending the complexities of the modern globalized economy.Conclusion: In conclusion, the relevance of Marxist theory to the contemporary international system lies in its ability to uncover the underlying power structures and inequalities inherent in global capitalism. While not without criticisms, Marxist insights offer valuable perspectives on issues such as economic exploitation, imperialism, and class struggle on a global scale. Scholars and policymakers can benefit from integrating Marxist analyses into their understanding of the complexities shaping the world order.