1. What is globalization?

Globalization is a systemic phenomenon in that it entails a highly complex system or collection of systems in ongoing and rapid expansion. Affecting countless aspects of both human life and our whole environment as well, it is a phenomenon that shapes the future of human society and the future of the world. At the same time, globalization is a cybernetic phenomenon because of its numerous interrelations and feedback mechanisms. Consequently, conceptual, epistemological, and methodological tools pertaining to General Systems Theory and Cybernetics may be used to study this old and yet very new phenomenon and, in particular, to study legal globalization and its diverse manifestations.

2. What is the systemic approach?

The systemic approach is a new world view comprised of a conceptual system, a theoretical framework and theory of praxis, and methodologies for research, planning, and system design.

3. What are the main goals of General Systems Theory? May a system be defined as an autonomous entity? What does cybernetics focus on?

General Systems Theory - or its broader approach known as systems philosophy - is the reorientation of thinking and world view resulting from the introduction of the system as the new scientific paradigm.

***The main goals of General Systems Theory are:***

● to investigate *(research)* analogies, parallelisms, similarities, correlations, and isomorphism of the concepts, laws, and models of sciences;

● to further knowledge transfer among sciences;

● to encourage the development and formulation of theoretical models in those

fields that lack or have rudimentary or imperfect models;

● to promote the unity of science and try to obtain uniformity in scientific

language.

A system may be defined as an autonomous entity having a certain degree of permanence and consisting of interrelated elements that constitute structural and functional subsystems. Internal regulations enable the system to adapt to the variations of a specific environment, within certain stability limits (i.e., a person, air conditioning, a car, an amoeba, a business or manufacturing company.) Furthermore, a system is a functioning entity that cannot be divided into independent parts. There are general systems laws that can be applied to any system of a particular type, regardless of its particular properties or components.

General Systems Theory does not study systems based on their components, but rather on their internal organisation, reciprocal interrelations, hierarchical levels, capacity for change and adaptability, preservation of identity, autonomy, relationship among their components, their organisation and growth rules, their disorganisation and destruction, etc.

Cybernetics, on the other hand, focuses on the study of the control and regulation of systems. It constitutes an integral part of General Systems Theory, and its principles are very helpful in understanding the working of complex systems.

4. What are the principles of cybernetics?

The key issue in understanding cybernetic systems is remembering that they are always much more than the sum of their components. They are only intelligible in terms of a working system.

~~The creator of the discipline,~~ Norbert Wiener, says that the aim of cybernetics is to develop a language and related techniques that will make it possible to address control and communication problems in general. Rodriguez Delgado, on the other hand, defines cybernetics as the science that makes an in-depth study of the mechanisms of the system for control and auto¬control.

5. What is an important concept in cybernetics?

A very important concept in cybernetics is feedback. feedback refers to the process by which a system receives information about its own performance and uses that information to adjust its behavior.

Its importance lies in the fact that all components of a systemic unit must communicate among themselves in order to build coherent interrelationships.

6. What feedback mechanisms do you know?

Feedback mechanisms can be negative, positive, or compensated. Negative feedback exists when the feedback contains or regulates the change (stabilising force), as in the case of a thermostat. Positive feedback exists when the feedback amplifies or multiplies the change in a certain direction (destabilising force), as in the case of the arms race. Therefore, negative feedback reduces - and positive feedback increases - the system’s deviations from its adaptive or viable goal. Compensated feedback exists when a regulator alternatively exercises positive and negative feedback, according to the maintenance requirements of the dynamic stability of the system or subsystem being regulated.