

The emerging ideology of “Globalism” meant that nations would eliminate barriers to trade producing an overall increase in worldwide economic interdependence. This interdependence encourages international capital investment, opens new markets, and harmonizes regulations among nations to ensure fairness on the open market. Thus a global economy is characterized by standardized trade practices, mutual growth, global investment, cooperation among nations instead of continuous war (or “Trade War”), and can assist underdeveloped countries achieve economic stability.

Globalism is not without its faults, and there are significant potential pitfalls that must be addressed. The unelected international bodies tasked with enforcing trade regulations may infringe upon, or undermine local and regional authority. The door is opened to the exploitation of economically vulnerable persons, resources, and nations. Aggressive privatization in pursuit of free trade can extend to essential goods and services such as utilities, infrastructure, education and law enforcement, leaving a nation socially crippled by its own efforts at growth. Continued focus on fair trade practices has the potential to lower prosperous nations to the level of undeveloped countries rather than assist in development. Finally, Globalism has become a stalking horse for those who promote crackpot conspiracy theories.

However, the ideologies protectionism and isolationism were well entrenched. How could thousands of politicians all around the world be simultaneously persuaded to encourage trade with economic rivals and potential enemies in a consistent Global (Domestic + International) Economic policy? Could companies, industries, and individuals perhaps make economic decisions themselves?

As early as 1946, there were industry-specific precedents already in existence demonstrating that the practice of economic self-regulation through non-governmental institutions was much more effective than relying entirely on partisan politicians for economic leadership. This required the creation of international bodies for self-regulation, called Non-Governmental Organizations or NGOs.

An NGO has no sovereign authority to govern. Membership is voluntary, as is compliance with whatever rules and regulations are promulgated by the relevant NGO. There are also NGOs that concentrate on other purposes and are only indirectly involved in the economic affairs of member nations.

Perhaps the best-known international body of any kind, and arguably the most influential of NGOs, is the United Nations or UN. Among many other functions, the UN provides a forum for nations to discuss trade issues without resorting to embargoes or military involvement. However there are other important organizations devoted specifically to "non-governing" financial matters. These include the World Trade Organization, (WTO), the International Monetary Fund, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (or IBRD, commonly known as the World Bank).

The WTO assists member nations in lowering barriers to international trade, and in resolving international trade disputes. The IMF helps countries with runaway inflation stabilize their currencies, primarily through loans. The IBRD also makes loans to economically disadvantaged nations, but for purposes besides simply stabilizing the currency (these purposes often include industrial development and public works such as roads and other infrastructure). In exchange for soliciting the help of the international community, nations receiving aid through these organizations are expected to lower their trade barriers such as taxes and tariffs, and liberalize (or, in other words, deregulate) their economies.

For better or worse, Globalism is the emerging international economic system, and the process of forming a Global economy—or "Globalization"—is a fact that nations and businesses have to accept and reckon with as it emerges as the defining economic reality of our century. The trend towards globalization is not likely to change. Proponents maintain that any adverse effects will be slight and temporary, and as the worldwide economy becomes fully globalized, worldwide growth will be assured (and the nations of the world will take another step forward to a lasting peace. The full impact and long-term effects of globalization have yet to be seen.