Thinking About Globalization as an Integration Process

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ABSTRACT

For a long time, many studies have been involved with the globalization research among academia, business practitioners, and policy analysts. It is highly controversial on what globalization is about. Scholars and experts explore globalization from a variety of perspectives with an emphasis on business and economic matters. Many recognize that it was complex of examining globalization. Based on the literature reviewed, this study aims at discussing the globalization as an ongoing integration process. By taking an interdisciplinary approach, the article seeks for clarifying the concept of globalization. It is to examine globalization from a globalizing process. The study concludes that globalization is an ongoing process of globalizing culture, economy, and institution towards a global integration.

KEYWORDS

Global Integration, Globalization, Globalizing Culture and Economy, Globalizing Institution and Governance, Industrial Revolutions, Technological Advancement

1. INTRODUCTION

Globalization is complicated and controversial. It starts from international businesses for globalizing culture, economy, and institution in a global context. When exploring globalization, it becomes significant to look into an integrative process of globalizing culture, economy, and institutions. To look into this integration process, we would need to know what is about and why it is important. In 2013, American Emergent Publications released a book called Globalization: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow for about 500 pages. The book was edited by Jim Sheffield from Victoria University of Wellington, Andrey Korotayev from Russian State University for Humanities, and Leonid Grinin from the Volgograd Center for Social Research. It covered 18 aspects of globalization.¹ Back to January 2019, Davos Summit setup a theme as “Globalization 4.0” for its annual conference. According to the Summit, there are ongoing industrial and technological revolutions. These include three pillars, which are: artificial intelligence (AIs); digitization and biotechnology. Because of these technological revolutions, human beings are marching into a new stage of globalization. This would be profoundly affecting the society and human lives from culture, economy and institution as a whole.²

In November 2018, Diana Choyleva, Chief Economist at Enodo Economics, and Stephen King, Senior Adviser at Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC), debated with Parag Khanna,
Managing Partner at FutureMap, and Nandan Nilekani, Co-Founder and Chairman at Infosys Ltd., over the pros and cons of globalization. Stephanie Flanders from Bloomberg Economics moderated it at the Bloomberg New Economy Forum in Singapore. This debate reiterated the same question, which was raised in 1997 by Harvard Professor Dani Rodrik: *Has Globalization Gone Too Far?* The debate argued both sides of the issue, pros or cons. It became arguments spanning thousands-year history of human interactions across the global. Glocalization studies are valuable beyond business and economic development and the ways in which economists interpret the international economy.

In this study, we look into globalization from an interdisciplinary approach for better understanding this complex and its impact on human lives and society. Based on the existing literature, we apply historical and comparative methods for this study. In other words, we look into globalization as an integration process. Meanwhile, we look at different literature on globalization for analysis in order to understand this ongoing process. For the following sections, in addition to the introduction, we review the literature related to globalization studies. After then, we examine the impact of globalizing culture, economy and institution on the global integration. From the literature review, we would argue that the existing studies ignored to pay an enough attention to globalizing institutions for governance. While putting emphasis on the economic side, the exist literature incidentally split this globalizing process. Finally, we would have concluding remarks briefly.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Globalization is complex and controversial. It is complex because globalization involves with many aspects of the human life and society. It is controversial because of not having an consistent base to look into globalization. Many studies enquire about globalization from economic perspective, while ignoring globalization’s cultural and institutional aspects. In this section, we briefly review the literature related to the globalization studies in order to identify the research question to explore.

Scholars have paid attention to investigate globalization from economic perspectives. We group this literature with the scholars as an “economic globalization school”. For this school, the research does not only appear in academic literature, but also from think tanks and government documents. These studies include Dichter (1962), *The world customer*; Levitt (1983), *The globalization of markets*; FAO (2003), *Globalization in food and agriculture*; Moller (2004), *A new strategy for globalization*; and IMF (2008), *Globalization: a brief review*. All these studies focus on business and economic globalization. In these studies, globalization is generally referred as the internationalization of business and economics. For example, in the FAO study, it says,

> Globalization refers to the ongoing process of rapid global economic integration facilitated by lower transaction costs and lower barriers to movements in capital and goods. It has shown itself in a growing interdependence of the world’s economies, rapidly rising trade flows, increases in capital movements and an increasing internationalization of production, often organized within and between multinational corporations (FAO. 2003).

The concern with this school is that, while examining economic globalization, the scholars ignore the other aspects of globalization, such as the impact of globalizing institutions on global integration. In the literature, many scholars argue globalization as historical waves. We call the group of these scholars as a globalization wave school (Table 1). This school includes Baldwin & Martin (1999), Therborn (2000), Robertson (2003), World Bank (2002), and Schwab (2018). In this school, the scholars see globalization as several historical waves, such as “two waves” (Baldwin & Martin, 1999), “three waves” (World Bank, 2002, Robertson, 2003), “four waves” (Schwab, 2018), “five waves” (Targowski, 2014), and “six waves” (Therborn, 2000).

A general feature of the globalization wave school is to look into globalization as a discontinuous process from the history of origin. The scholars argue that globalization appeared with a number of historical waves, while they ignore that globalization is an ongoing process towards a global integration. Let’s look at Baldwin and Martin (1999)’s argument on two waves of globalization. In the view of
Baldwin and Martin, there are two waves of globalization roughly from 1820 to 1914 and from 1960-present. By focusing on key economic facts, such as international trade, investment, migration, capital flows, and industrialization, they argue that these two waves are superficial similarities but fundamentally different. The similarities include aggregate trade and capital flow ratios, and the importance of reductions in barriers to international transactions. The fundamental difference lies in the impact that these reductions had on trade in goods versus trade in ideas. In the first wave, the world was poor and agrarian. When the second wave began, it was sharply divided between rich and poor nations. These two waves are relatively simple for people to understand a complicated process.

The World Bank (2002) and Robertson (2003) argue that there are three waves of globalization. Robertson published his book in 2003, *The Three Waves of Globalization: A History of a Developing Global Consciousness*. According to the World Bank, three waves of globalization include the first wave from 1870 to 1914, the second wave from 1945 to 1914, and the third wave began about 1980. The World Bank argues that, started around 1870, these three waves of globalization became substantial, driven by falling transport costs. The force from separate national economies to integrate is globalization. However, the study argues that globalization is not an inevitable process.

It is well known from the World Economic Forum to argue that human society is facing a fourth wave of globalization, which calls Globalization 4.0. According to Schwab, “Globalization 4.0 has only just begun, but we are already vastly underprepared for it. Clinging to an outdated mindset and tinkering with our existing processes and institutions will not do. Rather, we need to redesign them from the ground up, so that we can capitalize on the new opportunities that await us, while avoiding the kind of disruptions that we are witnessing today” (Schwab, 2018).

Targowski (2014) argues about five waves of globalization. This involves with the world-wide flow of goods, money, information, and people with scope and intensity that the progress of history has been altered. According to the author, the waves emerged from the Portuguese Empire about 1500 ago and impacted the world’s major civilizations. It is a complex of compatibly interactive entities of society, culture and infrastructure in a large frame of territory and time, embracing several nations and centuries together. For the argument about six waves, it started from the diffusion of world religions and the establishment of transcontinental civilizations. This delimited in time with regard to the most important process of spreading, which was not the same as the beginnings or ends. From this perspective, the most crucial period was constituted by the centuries of the Christian era (Therborn, 2000).

To summarize the literature reviewed, in globalization studies, most scholars look into globalization from a business and economic perspective, while some scholars examine globalization from different stages or waves. The literature reveals the complex of globalization and globalization studies. The essential literature gap on globalization studies is little research on exploring the complex of globalization other than that of the economic aspects. Moreover, many studies see globalization as several stages or waves. This is something ignored about globalization as an ongoing process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wave</th>
<th>Time period</th>
<th>Selected source</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two waves</td>
<td>1820-1914</td>
<td>Baldwin (Geneva) &amp; Martine (Sciences Po Paris) (1999)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1960-present</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1945-developed nations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1980-developing nations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four waves</td>
<td>Based on the industrial revolutions in history</td>
<td>Schwab (2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five waves</td>
<td>Based on the historical civilizations</td>
<td>Targowski (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six waves</td>
<td>Based on political power struggles</td>
<td>Therborn (2000)</td>
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This study aims at looking into the globalization with an intention to fill some gap and enrich the literature on this subject. In other words, the study argues that globalization is an ongoing process of globalizing culture, economy and institution towards a global integration. In difference from the existing literature, this study argues that globalization as an ongoing process towards a global integration consists of three significant components. These are:

To illustrate the above equation, we look into globalization from a historical perspective to address globalizing culture. This includes the impact of the religions such as Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. We then look at globalizing economy exploring the impact of the industrial and technological revolutions. Globalizing economy includes: a) international business and economics, such as transnational corporations as well as information technologies and progress on communications and transportation; b) global investment, production and trade, such as foreign direct investment and capital flows; and c) international marketing and consumption. After then, we look at globalizing institution by exploring the impact of the global governance, such as the League of Nations (1920-45), United Nations (1945 -), and European Union (1993 -).

For this study, it is worthy to note that the word “globalization” is different from “internationalization”. The word “internationalization” refers to “diversification”, which means that each business or country may keep its individual culture or identification while going international. Globalization means a global integration, which refers to a globalizing process as one entity. It refers to the action or process of joining or mixing with a different group of people, such as cultural integration, and the action or process of combining two or more components in a certain way, such as starting from a regional integration. In the following sections, we look into the globalization as an ongoing process for globalizing culture, economy, and institution for global governance.

3. GLOBALIZING PROCESS

Globalization as an ongoing process began with the movement of people and goods into the world. Traveling short or long distances, migrants, merchants and others have delivered ideas, customs and products to travelling lands. The melding, borrowing and adaptation of outside influences are found in many areas of human lives. During this process, started from the cultural spreading as some religious forms, then globalizing business and economy plays a crucial role. While the globalizing culture and economy ongoing, rules for globalizing governance on inter-cultural and international business appeared. In this session, we examine the impact of the globalizing culture and religions, globalizing business and economy, and then globalizing institution for governance on an integrative process.

3.1. Globalizing Culture

Globalizing culture links to the world’s major languages and religions. In 2007, two scholars, Peter Beyer and Lori Beaman, from the University of Ottawa, edited a book, Religion, Globalization, and Culture, brought together over 25 articles by many of the authors who worked on issues directly related to the theme of religion and globalization. This is an emphasis on culture flagged the inclusion of the relation of religion to its wider social context. According to the editors, the religion related to globalization as a topic is ignored in the literature (Beyer & Beaman, 2007). It is interesting that the book takes a historical approach to discuss religion and globalization, which is a method applied for this study. In this section, we look at the impact of the world’s major religions, i.e., Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam, on globalizing culture during the global integration process.

3.1.1. Impact of Buddhism

Scholars have found that modern Buddhism has become an intrinsic part of a globalizing world. With its philosophy of the way of life, it takes special place in human and cultural identity. Buddhism in
modern times has already incorporated either other genuine Asian traditions or Western traditions. It has merged with the sociocultural backgrounds of many countries across the world. Buddhism stresses the principle of interdependence which is the foundation of a globalization process (Barua and Basilio, 2012).

Originated from India before the Christianity time (563/480 B.C.~ 483/400 B.C.), Buddha found the Buddhism. Since then, Buddhism has become one of the world’s largest religions with over 520 million followers, or over 7% of the global population, known as Buddhists. According to the data, there are more than 185 million or 16% of the population with 240 thousand Buddhist clerics in China, with more than half of them as Tibetan Buddhists.

In the United States, about 1% of the general public is Buddhist. In Southern California, Buddhists share 40% of the population. For Asian Americans, one in seven, or 14%, is a Buddhist. The Buddhists see that the world is a web or network; nothing from the reality is apart from this web, because everything is interdependent on something else. The Buddhist’s concept of interdependence is a part of globalization process, which challenges the usual sense of separation from the global.

3.1.2. Impact of Christianity

Globalization is the act extending an influence to all parts of the world. It involves the emergence of a single world market or deregulation resulting in internationalization. According to the Christianity, God has a plan for globalization under the headship of the King and Redeemer, Jesus Christ (see Revelation 19–20). Christian beliefs dated back thousands of years before Christ. Jesus Christ, a central figure of Christianity, was born and lived between 4 B.C. ~ 33/33 A.D. to rule the world. In 392 AD, Christianity becomes the official religion within the Roman Empire. In 1054, the disputes about the Pope’s role and authority caused a split in Christianity between the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Churches. The split still exists today. In 1517, Martin Luther, a German monk, started a movement called the Reformation when he criticized certain church practices as well as the supremacy of the pope. This divided Western Christianity into the Roman Catholic Church and Protestantism.

According to PEW, Christians remains the largest religious group in the world, making up nearly a third (31%) of Earth’s 7.3 billion people. About half of all Christians live in 10 countries. The top three are: the United States with about 246.78 million, or 79.5% of its population. Brazil with about 175.77 million or 90.2% of its population, and Mexico with about 107.8 million or 95% of its population (PEW, 2015) (Figure 1). Christianity built and spread its religious culture to the world. It makes people from all over the world to be connected because of its beliefs. The process of globalizing culture has been under the way for many centuries along with this religion. The Christianity in the world increases the speed of globalizing culture and also broadens the distribution of cultural elements beyond communities and nations’ territorial frontiers towards a global integration.

### Table 2. Global Buddhism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Buddhist (million)</th>
<th>Population share</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia /Thailand</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>+90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Pew Research (2015). It is argued that Buddhism is the world’s 3rd religion. In the United States, 1/7 or 14% of Asian Americans are Buddhists.
3.1.3. Impact of Islam

Islam is the 2nd largest religion in the world after Christianity, along with about 1.8 billion Muslims worldwide. Although its roots back further, scholars date the creation of Islam to the 7th century, making it the youngest of the major world religions. Islam started in Mecca in modern-day Saudi Arabia during the time of the prophet Muhammad’s life. Today, this faith spreads rapidly throughout the world. Muhammad, sometimes spelled “Mohammed” or “Mohammad,” was born in Mecca in Saudi Arabia in 570 A.D. Muslims believe that he was the final prophet sent by God to reveal their faith to mankind. The “Six Articles of Faith” summarizes Islamic beliefs about God, angels, prophets, the Qu’ran, the afterlife, and predestination.10

The relationship between Islam and globalization has been open to many interpretations. One of the explanations is that Islam is somehow opposed to the process of globalization. This is a misinterpretation. Some scholars clarified that Islam does not oppose globalization or global integration. For example, according to the information, Islam is not anti-globalization in its original sense, but Muslims do have a problem with Westernization. Although Westernization of society is condemned, modernization or globalization as such is not11.

3.2. Globalizing Economy

The term “globalization” has been increasingly used since the mid-1980s, and especially since the mid-1990s. The word “globalization” is from the verb “globalize” or “globalizing”, which means to make the world wider in scope. Globalization is a process of global integration arising from interchanges of the world views, products, ideas and other aspects of culture. During this historical process of globalizing culture, advances in transportation and communications, including the rise of the posterity of the Internet, are significant factors in globalization, generating further interdependence of business, economic and cultural activities in the world. In 2000, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) identified some basic aspects of globalization from an economic perspective. These include trade and transactions, capital and investment moving, migration and movement of people, and the dissemination of the knowledge (IMF, 2008). Many scholars look into globalization from business and economic perspective (Huang, et al 2022). For this view, globalization closely links to industrialization and technological advances (Murthy, et al 2021). In this section, we examine the globalizing economy from economic globalization linking to technology and industrial revolutions as well as international business, investment and trade.

3.2.1. Impact of the 1st Industrial Revolution (1760-1840)

Started from the mid-18 century through the mid-19 century, it signaled the first industrial revolution from British, which was represented by James Watt (1736-1819)’s creation on the watt steam in 1776.
The first industrial revolution with its mechanical innovations, such as the steam engine accelerated internationalization of economic activities, which was at the center of globalization. It brought major advancements in transportation - speed and cost - also the need to import resources from overseas countries to the factories in Europe.

Since the 18th century, the world witnessed the process of globalization approaching for its economic forms from globalizing culture. The industrial revolution made the fundamental transformation of human life because of the economic development. In the late centuries, the global economy emerged as some form in which advanced regions were linked to the colonies by certain division of economic activities. These international interactions might be described as a system of trade flows, migration and capital transfer as IMF identified (IMF, 2008).

The first industrial revolution accelerated global integration and globalizing process. From the first industrial revolution onward, the world economy was further integrated and the regions became more interdependent each other. This tendency or process prepared a circumstance for what we call “global integration” or “globalization”.12

3.2.2. Impact of the 2nd Industrial Revolution (1870-1914)

While the 1st industrial revolution led to the growth of industries from the United Kingdom in the middle of 19th Century, the 2nd industrial revolution was expanded with the manufacturing system and technologies making the latter better than the former. This industrial revolution began to spread from the Western Europe to North America, which unfolded in the United States even more powerfully because of the advanced technologies. Since the 2nd industrial revolution, the United States became the world’s leader in manufacturing and overall economy.

In the late 19th century and early 20th century, the 2nd industrial revolution was symbolized by the electric generation in 1870, and then electric lights in 1879. From the steam engine invented by James Watt leading to the 1st industrial revolution to the electric generation in the later 19th century, Thomas Edison (1847-1931) was considered as America’s greatest inventor appeared in this industrial revolution. Advancements in manufacturing and production technology enabled the adoption of technological systems, such as telegraph and railroad networks, gas and water supply, and sewage systems. From Europe to North America, the enormous expansion of rail and telegraph lines since 1870 allowed unprecedented movement of people and ideas. This greatly promoted and sped up the global integration and globalization process.

3.2.3. Impact of the 3rd Industrial Revolution (1950-)

While the first two industrial revolutions with the technology advancements in the 19th and 20th centuries were to be centralized and top-down in terms of knowledge and intellectual property, the 3rd industrial revolution was to be distributed rather than decentralized.13 In the past, companies would need to operate vertically, resulting in little benefit for the bottom of society, the technology they used was designed to bring returns to shareholders. The 3rd industrial revolution was symbolized as the information sharing and digitization (Table 3), which pushed business operations to be open and

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3. Upgrading of the Information Technology Since 1950s</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Generation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (about 10 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (about 6 years)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 (about 6 years)</td>
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transparent. This allowed the economy to be more productive as the network effected more people involved with an international scope.

Started from the 1950s\textsuperscript{14}, the 3\textsuperscript{rd} industrial revolution has changed business, economy, and much more else. According to the\textit{ Economist}, the industrial revolution affects not only how things were made, but also where factories used to move to low-wage countries to curb labor costs. With this industrial revolution, labor costs grew less important: a $499 first-generation iPad included only about $33 of manufacturing labor, of which the final assembly in China accounted for just $8. Offshoring production is increasingly moving back to rich countries not only as Chinese wages are rising, but also because companies wanted to be closer to the customers to respond to changes in demand\textsuperscript{15}.

In his book, \textit{The Third Industrial Revolution} (2011), Jeremy Rifkin (1945-)\textsuperscript{16} described how the pillars of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} industrial revolution created thousands of businesses and millions of jobs. All these ushered in a fundamental reordering of human relationships—from hierarchical to lateral power—that impact the way people conducting commerce, governing society, educating children, and engaging in civic life. In Riflin’s view, the Internet technology merged to create the infrastructure for industrialization and moderation that changed the way business was conducted and economy was distributed in the 21\textsuperscript{st} century. Symbolized by the Internet and information technology, this industrial revolution surpassed previous ones, which took a faster pace to change the ways of doing businesses. People and society have more globally connected and integrated, which was a deep impact of the globalization process.

3.2.4. Are We at the 4\textsuperscript{th} Industrial Revolution (1980 -)?

As analyzed, the 1\textsuperscript{st} industrial revolution used steam power to mechanize production. The 2\textsuperscript{nd} one used electric power to create mass production, and the third used electronics and information technology to automate production. Scholars argue that the 4\textsuperscript{th} industrial revolution comes built on the third. The digital revolution has occurred since the last century. It is characterized by a fusion of technologies blurring the lines among the physical, digital, and biological spheres (Schwab, 2017).

In his book, \textit{The Fourth Industrial Revolution} (2017), Schwab argues that this revolution is different in scale, scope and complexity from any that have come before. Characterized by a range of new technologies fusing the physical, digital and biological worlds, the developments are affecting all disciplines, economies, industries and governments, and even challenging ideas about what it means to be a human\textsuperscript{17}. In these scholars’ view, the current industrial revolution is essentially different from the previous ones. It is because the previous industrial revolutions were symbolized with advancement on information technology. This one does not only include information technology, but also see a systematic advancement on the artificial intelligence, digitization and biotechnology.

Represented by Klaus Schwab, the scholars argue that the 4\textsuperscript{th} industrial revolution is leading the 4\textsuperscript{th} stage of globalization. In 1980, Xcon (Export Configurer) program, produced by Digital Equipment Company in the United States, moved forward artificial intelligence technology with computing system. In 2017, Saudi Arabia announced that the newest citizen, Sophia Robot, was acknowledged. This became the first robot citizen in the world. With this advancement of technologies, some scholars argue that we are at a new stage of industrialization and globalization. It is because that we stand on the brink of a technological revolution that fundamentally alters the way we live, work, and relate to one another. In its scale and complexity, the transformation is unlike anything humankind experienced before\textsuperscript{18}.

3.3. Globalizing Institution

We’ve briefly looked at the historical process from globalizing culture to globalizing economy. When seeing globalizing culture as a spiritual movement for human society, globalizing economy is some physical or material needs globally. For human society to seek for material needs and spiritual movement, globalizing institution becomes an inevitable component of global integration process. Some scholars called a globalizing institution as some “global commons” or “world system”\textsuperscript{19}.
When beginning a global integration process, people may leave home to trade their goods or start a journey to discover new people or places. At that time, people might not know how the world could be, nor were there rules. As human connections spread, problems arose over how to do business, whose law to follow, or how to avoid conflicts of either language or culture. Over time, rules were established across countries, cultures, or regions that outsiders were obliged to respect. When connections and integration processes led to global issues, the need to develop collective rules of governance became apparent. This is what we call some globalizing institution for global integration processes. Of many issues related to globalizing institutions, for example, a global consensus to deal with climate change is one of globalizing institution matters, which becomes more and more significant to human society.

In this section, we take three international organizations to illustrate the role and significance of globalizing institution on global integration processes. These international organizations include the League of Nations (1920-1945), an effort on globalizing institution for human society to handle disputes during the process of globalizing culture and globalizing economy. The second one is the United Nations, which is currently involved with growing issues of international development and global integration. The final one is the European Union’s practice linking to globalizing institution from national to regional basis.

3.3.1. League of Nations (1920-1945)

The League of Nations was an international organization formed after the first World War and existed from 1920 to 1945. Its primary goal was to encourage the use of negotiation and arbitration to prevent war and to settle international disputes. In June 1919, twenty-nine members of the Allied powers signed the Treaty of Versailles and became the official members of the League, with 13 other neutral powers joined by the end of 1920. The League of Nations was based in Geneva. It included the victorious Allied nations from the World War I, with the exception of the United States, as well as many neutral nations.

Created in 1919, the League of Nations was a significant experiment on global administration or governance for decades. Its first decade was seen “fairly successful” in adjusting frontiers and settling disputes within Europe although it had still no effective on a global scope (Wertheimer, 1969). As Ranshofen-Wertheimer (1969) pointed out, the League of Nations is an experiment in international administration. According to Isabella Löhr (2015), the League of Nations was the first international organization to unite as many important fields as possible under one roof. It was standing for a number of innovations that smoothed the path for the future experiment. The League of Nations was established as a historical exploration along with the processes of globalization.

3.3.2. United Nations (1945 -)

Founded in 1945, the United Nations (UN) is currently made up of 193 Member States. It was seen the second multipurpose international organization established in the 20th century that was worldwide in scope and membership. Its predecessor, the League of Nations, was created by the Treaty of Versailles in 1920 and disbanded in 1945. According to the UN’s Charter, the organization works for peace and security; economic and social development; human rights and humanitarian affairs as well as international rules and regulations. Building up from the League of Nations practice, the idea about the UN may allow us to go back to the Biblical period. There were efforts to establish codes of conduct for people who came from other tribes, races and beliefs in a civilized fashion.

In the era of a global integration process, the UN follows a holistic approach and gives emphasis on governing globalization of culture, economy and social development. With more and more international affairs, such as climate changes and recent pandemic, affecting the governance globally, the institutional power would need to be transferred from states to non–state actors. This results in an increased influence for the international organizations, such as the UN. The impact of this governance means for the UN to increase global integration process.
Modern technology in a broad sense represents the ways for more people today in particular to communicate and understand the world. A case in point was the UN sponsored the “World We Want” project that attracted an unprecedented six million votes from 193 countries who expressed their opinions on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), using both online and offline formats. Many people who voted on this SDGs live under repressive and authoritarian regimes. They have little concern about their future. The globalizing institution needs to represent their interests and the interests of their backers. For some reasons, these regimes fail to make necessary investments in education that could better secure the future.

Another global focus from the UN practice as an example is on saving the planet from the environmental threats it faces. This issue may involve addressing non-state actors as nation states are designed to set political agendas on a short-term basis, such as to increase gross domestic product (GDP). Long-term issues that relate to sustainable development — as opposed to popularly supported development like passing a carbon tax — tend not to be vote winners. The UN is increasingly a vehicle the world as a globalizing institution is reliable on to create the governance framework in order to move towards a globalization process.

3.3.3. European Union (1993 -)

The European Union (EU) was initially established through the 1992 Maastricht Treaty. It constituted a continuation of the economic integration process. This started with the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1952 and the European Economic Community in 1955. These two organizations were merged in 1965 into the European Community. Because of a historical continuity persisted despite these name changes, many scholars apply the term ‘European Union’ to the institutionalized organization throughout this evolution from the 1950s onwards.

The EU constitutes a certain element in the context of international or multinational governance. This is clearly more than a state while relatively less than a global organization. It is even driven by some crisis and yet continuously expanding and deepening in spite of Brexit. Although the EU is often criticized by its governments, it apparently appeals for many beyond its borders. One of the issues for European integration is the relationship the EU has developed with the rest of the world (Christiansen, 2017). The EU seems a third country, special region, or institution of cross-boarder governance. This institution has long perceived itself as a champion for trade and economic integration, as leading the world in trade and foreign direct investments. It is deeply involved in the development of important global regimes such as climate change. The EU is the world’s biggest donor of the development aid. As some argued, the EU can be seen as a ‘normative power’ in its external relations.

According to Christiansen, the EU’s integrative policy is constrained by the need for consensus among its member states. It is hampered by material and practical limitations. The EU is often regarded as a ‘fortress’ seeking to shut out immigrants and lacks the capacity to confront global powers in the realm of traditional security (Christiansen, 2017). However, it is an interesting case when exploring the integration from a regional to global perspective. The EU perspective on a global integration is particular or unique. Europe or EU becomes interchangeable. When talking about EU, it is not only on its geographical area, but also it is a regional integration bringing together a collection of a large number of particular states. It is a unique institution from the European continent to the world.

4. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Through this study, we’ve learned that globalization is an ongoing process of globalizing culture, economy and institution towards a global integration. In this paper, while seeing the importance of studying globalization, we briefly reviewed the existing literature on skewed to economic globalization and splitting global integration process to a number of waves for the globalization process. Based on the preliminary analysis, we find that globalization is a process without limiting to economy, and It cannot be split or discontinued from different stages. During this integration process, globalizing
culture, economy and institution are interdependence and interactive. Historically, the globalization process started from globalizing culture, such as the impact of the religions of Buddhism, Christianity and Islam. It is then integrative to globalizing business and economy, including international trade and capital flows. When the globalizing culture and economy on the process, globalizing institution becomes necessary. The League of Nations, the United Nations, and the European Union are experiments on globalizing process toward a global integration in institution in society.

As FAO analyzed, during the integration, global governance and management system can assist this process through communication mechanism, and advance transportation. It can be continuing to open production and trade for global markets and the international consumers (FAO, 2003). To summarize this study, we would remark:

- **Globalization is an ongoing process**: Seeing from a historical perspective, the strength of the argument lies in the way that it stresses the importance of an ongoing dynamics. It is a relevant space for comparative and multiple analysis of culture, economy and governance. This study seeks to improve on the analysis of continuity in the integration process by attempting to answer the question, such as what is going on about globalization. In order to do so, we identified generally accepted features of an integration on globalizing culture, economy and institution for governance.

- **Globalization is a process of globalizing culture, economy and institutions**: To examines globalization as an ongoing process, this study looked at the development of globalizing culture in the early historical time through the cases of different religions in spreading to the world. Along with the study of globalizing institution, the study explored the consequences of the development of globalizing economy, including international markets and consumption. We look at the process of globalization by means of international institutions and rules. In investigating the forms of globalizing institution, we analyzed the role and functions of the global governance, such as the UN system.

- **Globalization is an ongoing process of globalizing culture, economy and institutions toward a global integration**: Globalization is a process of interaction and integration among people, businesses, and governments worldwide. As a multifaceted phenomenon, globalization is considered as a form of institutional expansion which entails the integration of local, national and regional economies into a global system. Globalization is ongoing due to the advances in transportation and communication technology. Increased global interactions generate the growth of international trade, ideas, and culture. Globalization is a process of integration associated with cultural, economy, and institution.

It is worthy indicating that it is in high complex of globalization and globalization studies, which needs an interdisciplinary approach to explore. This study is preliminary and needs deep studies in order to find the truth of a global integration process. The forces that global business and people in human society need to deal with—from social networking to uncertainties — have developed rapidly over the last decades. Since the globalization studies from this century, the combination of advancing information digitization and artificial intelligence have meant that doing business does need to think globally. No matter what happens and how the countries’ scope changes, the human society is going to hyper-connected and interconnected to be interdependent, resulting in a global integration.
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According to this publication, globalization is a growth of the sizes of social systems and the increase in the complexity of inter-societal links. Thus, in certain respects, globalization is regarded as a process connecting the past, present, and future — as a sort of bridge between the past and future (https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326976568_GLOBALIZATION_Yesterday_Today_and_Tomorrow, accessed March 22, 2022).

Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum, argues that there would be the two organizing principles (wider engagement and heightened imagination) related to globalization in the 2019 Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters. It would convene under the theme of “Globalization 4.0: Shaping a New Architecture in the Age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution”. Ready or not, a new world is upon us (www.weforum.org).


Professor Nicolas Papadopoulos from Carleton University advises that “globalizing culture” is a broad concept. Religion may be one part of it. Because of the study limited, this paper just focuses on three major religions as examples to illustrate the impact of the religions on globalizing culture - Author’s personal note.


According to Centryo, the third industrial revolution started from 1969. This revolution witnessed the rise of electronics—with the transistor and microprocessor—but also the rise of telecommunications and computers. https://www.sentryo.net/the-4-industrial-revolutions/. Accessed March 24, 2022.

For more information, see the special report from the Economist on April 21, 2012, Manufacturing The third industrial revolution. This report argues that the digitization of manufacturing transforms the way goods are made.

Jeremy Rifkin (1945-), the author of the Third Industrial Revolution (Tantor Media, 2011), is an American economic theorist. Since 1995, Rifkin has lectured at the Wharton School’s Executive Education Program. In the book, The Fourth Industrial Revolution, published by the Penguin Random House (2017), the author argued about three reasons why today’s transformations represented not merely a prolongation of the 3rd industrial revolution but rather the arrival of a 4th and distinct from the velocity, scope, and systems impact. According to the author, the speed of current breakthroughs has no historical precedent. When compared with previous industrial revolutions, the Fourth is evolving at an exponential rather than a linear pace. Moreover, it is disrupting almost every industry in every country. And the breadth and depth of these changes herald the transformation of entire systems of production, management, and governance.

While some scholars argue that we are at the 4th industrial revolution with a new stage of globalization or simply called “Globalization 4.0”, other scholars argue that we are still in the 3rd stage. It is because that the artificial intelligence, digitization and biotechnology, which the advocates of globalization 4.0 develop,

19 Immanuel Wallerstein (1930-), a sociologist and historian at Yale University, developed the version of world-systems analysis, beginning in the 1970s. Wallerstein traced the rise of the capitalist world-economy from the “long” 16th century (c. 1450–1640). The rise of capitalism, in his view, was an accidental outcome of the protracted crisis of feudalism (c. 1290–1450). Europe (the West) used its advantages and gained control over most of the world economy and presided over the development. The spread of industrialization and capitalist economy indirectly resulted in a unequal development.

20 In a seminar on April 2, 2019, Professor Papadopoulos argued that we might need to think about the role and impact of some global civilizations on globalizing governance and integration, such as Portuguese Empire, British Empire, and American Superpower. It is indeed interesting to look into the importance of global civilizations on globalizing governance and global integration process. Because of time limited, it is difficult to involve with this significant area to examine (the Author’s personal note).

21 For some reasons, the United States didn’t join the League of Nations. For example, it might be that the United States was dealing with mostly European problems and didn’t worry about policies and problems in other parts of the world at the time.


24 For Brexit, there is a lot of information. For example, please see Alex Hunt & Brian Wheeler, Brexit: All you need to know about the UK leaving the EU. BBC News, March 25, 2022.

25 For more information about the “normative power”, please see Sjursen (2005). The EU as a ‘normative power’: how can this be? https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/5076231.pdf.