COMPETING CONCEPTIONS OF GLOBALIZATION

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ABSTRACT

Globalization is a relatively new idea in the social sciences, although people who work in and write about the mass media, transnational corporations and international business have been using it for some time. The purpose of this paper is to critically review the ways in which sociologists and other social scientists use ideas of globalization and to evaluate the fruitfulness of these competing conceptions. The central feature of the idea of globalization is that many contemporary problems cannot be adequately studied at the level of nation-states, that is, in terms of each country and its inter-national relations. Instead, they need to be conceptualized in terms of global processes. Some have even gone so far as to predict that global forces, by which they usually mean transnational corporations and other global economic institutions, global culture or globalizing belief systems/ideologies of various types, or a combination of all of these, are becoming so powerful that the continuing existence of the nation-state is in serious doubt. This is not a necessary consequence of most theories of globalization. The argument of this paper is that much of the globalization literature is confused because not all those who use the term distinguish it clearly enough from internationalization, and some writers appear to use the two terms interchangeably. I argue that a clear distinction must be drawn between the inter-national and the global. The hyphen in inter-national is to distinguish (inadequate) conceptions of the global founded on the existing even if changing system of nation-states, from (genuine) conceptions of the global based on the emergence of global processes and a global system of social relations not founded on national characteristics or nation-states. This global system theory is the framework for my own research. Globalization studies can be categorized on the basis of four research clusters: 1. The world-systems approach; 2. The global culture approach; 3. The global society approach; 4. The global capitalism approach. The body of the paper is an exposition and critique of these approaches. The paper argues that the global capitalism approach is most productive for theory and research in globalization and concludes with a brief discussion of resistances to globalization.

FULL TEXT:

PDF

DOI: https://doi.org/10.5195/jwsr.1999.140

REFBACKS

- There are currently no refbacks.
Change: Historical and Comparative Perspectives. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Maryland, USA, pp. 59-78. ISBN
9780801884238. Full text not available from this repository. Related Item. Author. Item Type
Concept of Globalization Globalization means different things to different people. The three important perspectives of globalization are as follows: • To a business executive, globalization refers to a strategy of crossing national boundaries through globalized production and marketing networks. • To an economist, globalization refers to economic interdependence between countries covering increased trade, technology, labor, and capital flows. We will write a custom essay sample on Concept of Globalisation specifically for you. for only $13.90/page. Order Now. EFFECT OF GLOBALISATION Increasing globalization has many effects and consequences on an individual business firm as well as the national economy. These effects are both positive as well as negative. 6 “Competing Conceptions of Globalization”, Journal of World-systems Research, v, 2, summer 1999, 143-163; http://jwsr.ucr.edu/, issn 1076-156x © 1999 Leslie Sklair. 7 Greg Nzeken, “Contemporary Experiences in Globalization” in Globalization and Nigeria’s Economic Development. Proceedings of the one-day seminar held at the N.I.I.A Lagos, February 11, 1999. p. 30. concepts of absolute state power is consistent with modern life and the impact of the globalising world on sovereignty of states. In brief,18 is the concept of sovereignty as. absolute power compatible with international solidarity and inter-dependence and have scientific and technological advance which have reduced the world into a.