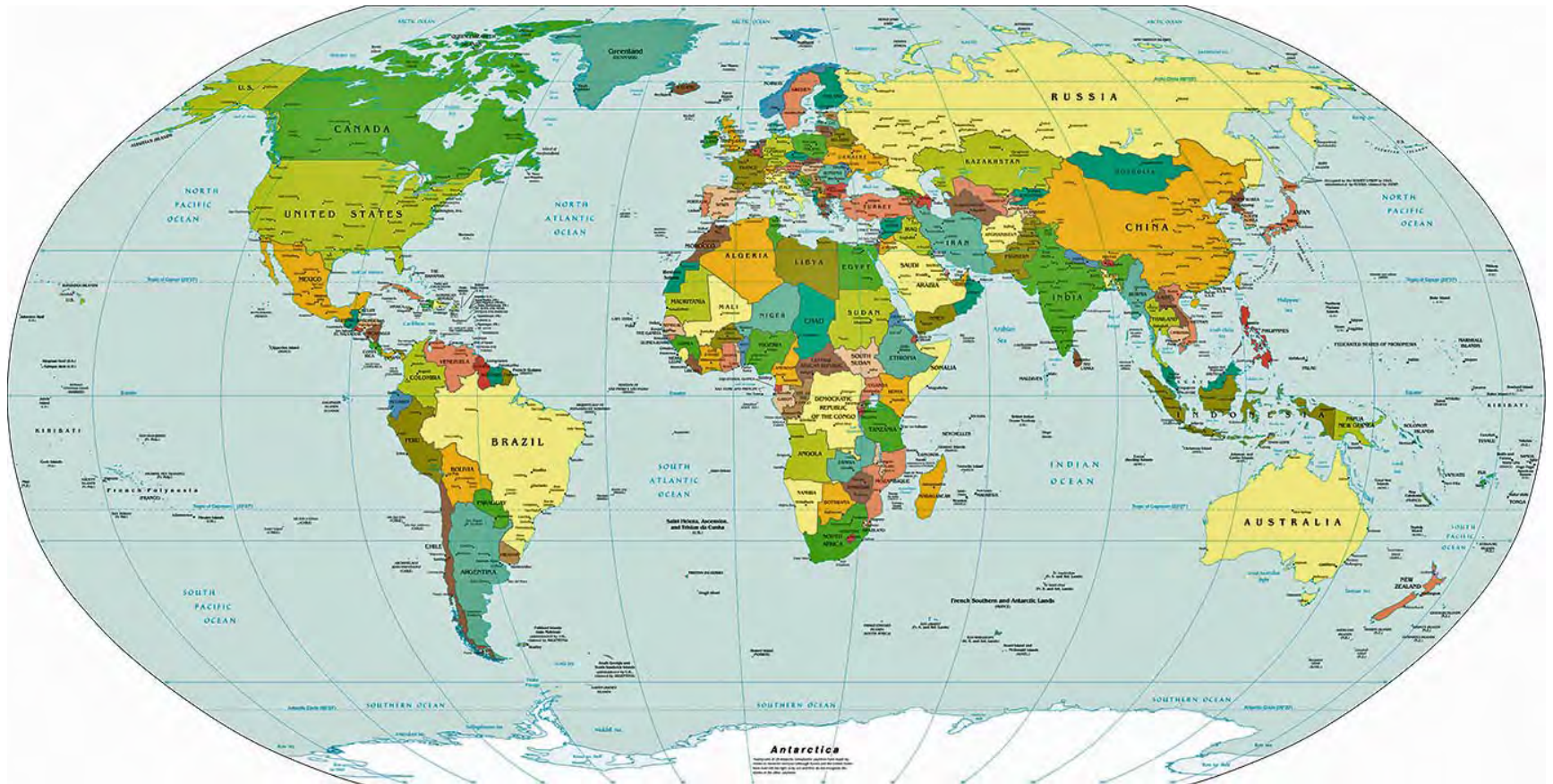




Globalization:

Definition and History

Why Global Studies?

- Global studies or international studies attempts to understand the world by looking at it from multiple perspectives (multidisciplinary): history, political science, international relations, economics, sociology, etc.
- Global studies seeks to make connections between those different perspectives (interdisciplinary)

What is Globalization?

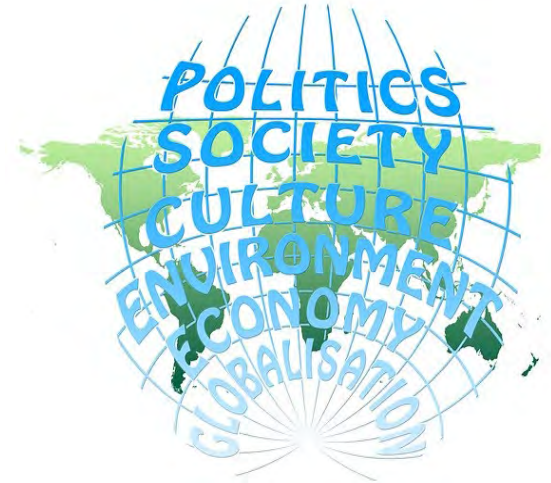
- Disagreement over definition
 - Can be framed in a variety of ways.
- Global vs. Local or National
 - Example: Global war on terror, Global climate change
- Some view globalization as internationalization
- Some equate globalization with Westernization
 - Westernization is a process whereby non-Western countries and societies adopt social, legal, dietetic, religious, technological, political, and economics ideals and norms of Western world (the U.S. and Western Europe).

Definitions of Globalization

- Globalization refers to a multidimensional set of social processes that create, multiply, stretch, and intensify worldwide interdependencies and exchange while at the same time fostering in people a growing awareness of deepening connections between the local and the distant. (Manfred Steger)

Explanation

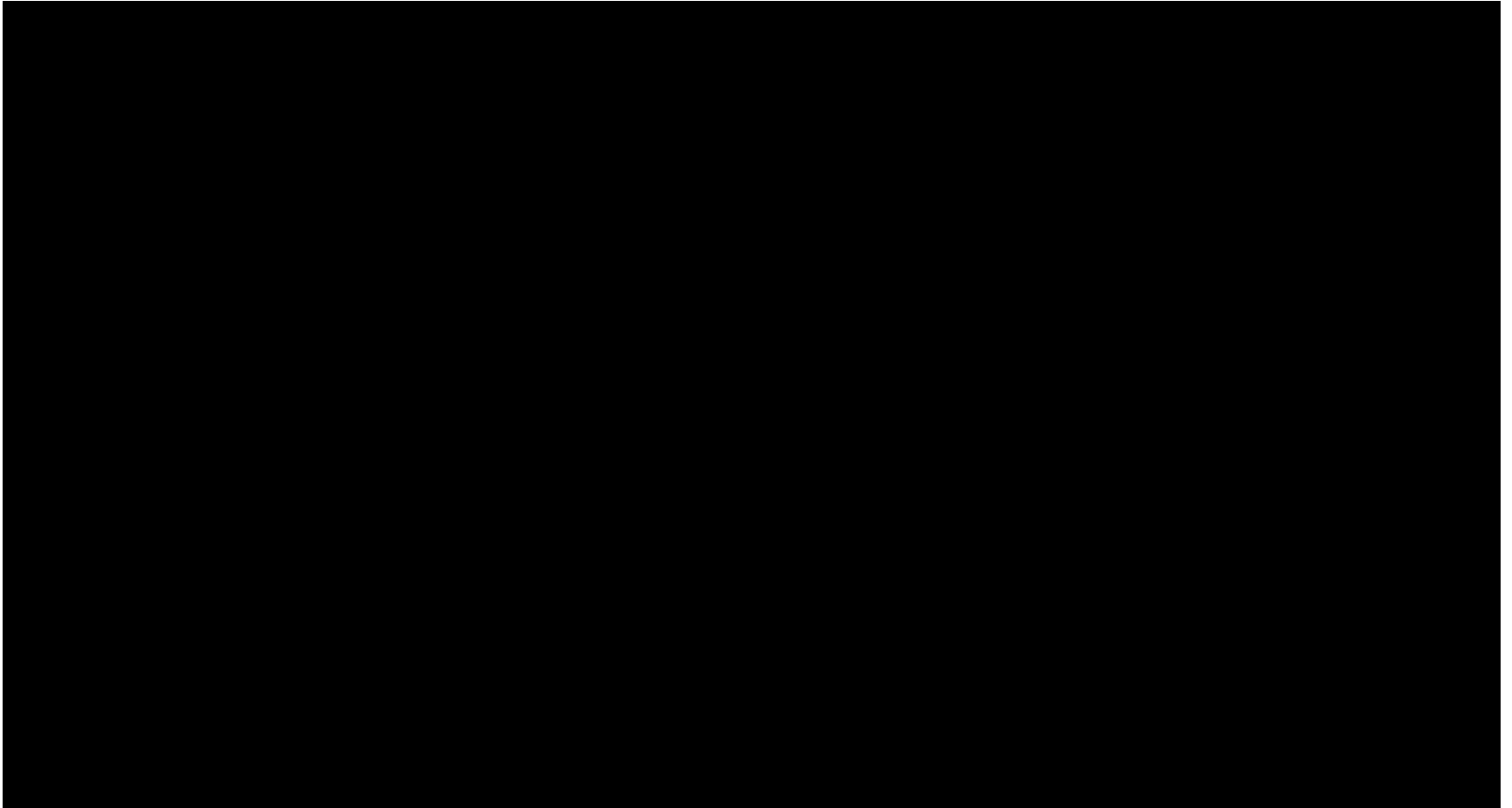
- Globalization a series of social processes:
 - globalization is not an event or a singular process.
 - Globalization consists of multiple ongoing, interdependent actions and operations.
- These processes are social: i.e. they relate to the human society, its members, organizational patterns, and relationships.



Explanation

- Social processes create and expand networks of connections.
- These networks increasingly overcome traditional political, economic, cultural, and geographical boundaries.
- Steger's definition highlights connections between the local and the global.
 - Example: the link between consumer demand of electronic devices and the civil war in Congo (DRC)
 - DRC holds 80% of world's coltan reserves. (coltan source of tantalum)

What is Globalization?



Globalization: Something New?

- How far back are you interested in tracing the history of human migration, social networks, and technological innovation.
- It has been a long time coming, but now it is happening fast.
- Why is it happening?
- Is the pace of globalization accelerating?
- Since early 1970s, dramatic expansion and acceleration of global exchanges.

History of Globalization

Pre-historic period (10,000 _{BCE} – 3,500 _{BCE})

- Mankind spreads out from East Africa one million years ago.
- Human reach every part of the planet.
- Hunters-gatherers reached southern tip of South America 12,000 years ago: accomplishment of the global dispersion of human species.
- Humans started to produce their own food.
- Limited globalization during pre-historic period due to lack of advance forms technology capable of overcoming geographic and social obstacles.

History of Globalization

- **Pre-modern era:** (3,500_{BCE} – 1,500_{CE})
 - Drivers of globalization:
 - Invention of writing in [Mesopotamia](#), Egypt, and Central China (3,500 and 2,000 BCE)
 - Invention of the wheel around 3,000 BCE in South East Asia
 - Development of boats
 - Pre-modern period was the age of Empires
 - Development of trading routes: one of the most extensive trade routes was the [Silk Road](#) (linked China, the Roman Empires, and the Italian Peninsula).
 - Consequences: waves of migration leading to population increases in urban centers.
 - Rise of Europe



History of Globalization

Early modern period (1500 – 1750)

- Term “modernity” refers to 18th Century period of European Enlightenment
- Drivers of globalization:
 - Development of European technology
 - Development of capitalism system and its values: individualism and unlimited material accumulation
- Development of Westphalian states system or the sovereign nation-state system



History of Globalization

Modern period (1750 – 1970)

- Rise of Western capitalist enterprises
- Spread of capitalism ideals: individualism and rational self-interest
- Volume of world trade increased dramatically:
 - ✓ Drivers: Establishment of multinational banks
 - ✓ Colonization of the global South for resources
 - ✓ Rise of multinational corporations: Coca-Cola, etc.



History of Globalization

Modern period (1750 – 1970)

- Development of science and technology:
 - Innovations in transportation: railroads
 - Development of communication technologies: telegraph, telephone, mass media
- Explosion of population with waves of migration (cultural exchanges): world population
 - 1750: 760 million
 - 1970: 3.7 billion

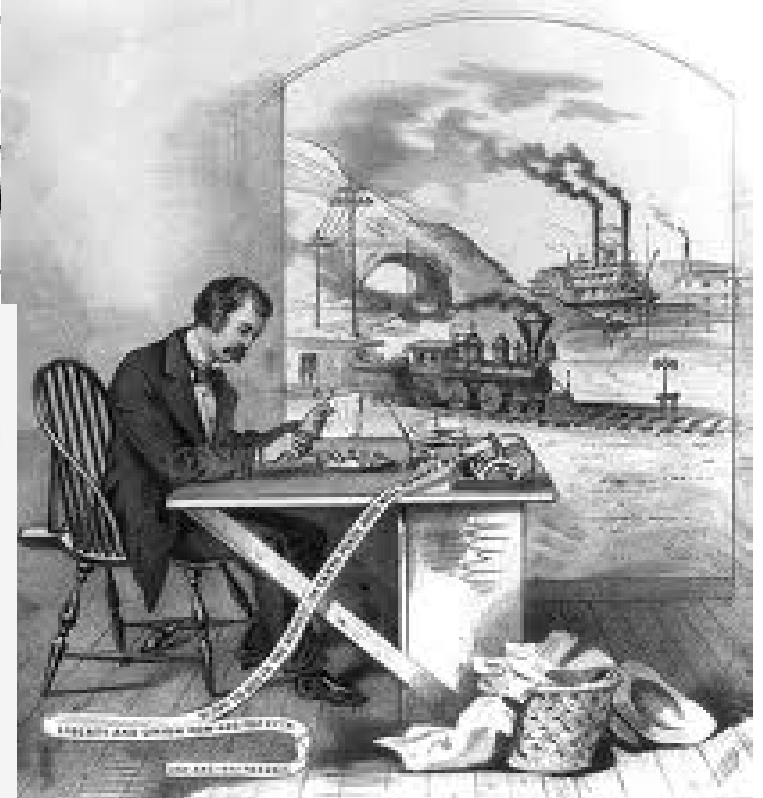
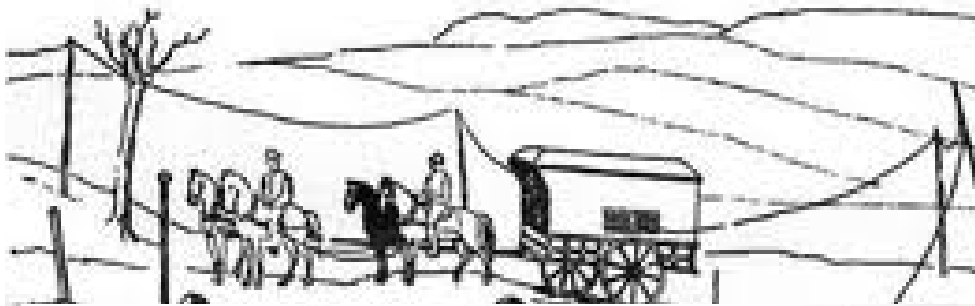


History of Globalization

Contemporary period (from 1970)

- Dramatic expansion and acceleration of worldwide interdependencies since the early 1970s.
- Our lectures will be related to this period.

Key Elements: Then



Key Elements: Now



Drivers of Globalization

- Improved communications
- Improved of transportation system
- The rise of transnational corporations
- Social and political reforms
- The rise of international financial and trade institutions

Pros and Cons of Globalization

Pros

- Increases of economic productivity
- Reduces prices for consumers
- Transfers technology
- Gives developing countries access to foreign investment funds
- Spreads of democracy and freedom
- Increases information sharing

Pros and Cons of Globalization

Cons

- Causes job insecurity: jobs are being outsourced from developed countries to less developed countries
- Increase in gap between rich and poor
- Environmental and social impacts: transnational corporations may have fewer environmental regulations to follow and can pay lower wages
- Undermines cultural, linguistic, and religious diversity
- Losses of cultural identity

So, let's study it in more details during the semester.

Mesopotamia



Silk Road



Human Immigration

