

Economic Integration

- I. What does “economic integration” mean?
- II. How does integration occur? By what processes or systems is the world becoming “integrated”?
 - A. Trade (commodity flows)
 - B. Finance (money flows)
 - C. Migration (people flows)
 - D. Transnational corporations
 - E. States (i.e. government policy, strategies promoting “liberalization” and formal integration)
- III. In what ways is economic integration uneven?
 - A. Regional economic blocs (“formalizing” integration)
 - B. Concentration of manufacturing production and trade
 - C. Concentration of FDI
 - D. Income and wealth inequality
 - E. Differential growth of global labor market and job market
 - F. Persistence and growth of extreme poverty
- IV. What explains the unevenness of economic integration?
 - A. TNCS and large states control the process, producing a “biased” competitive landscape
 - B. Developing (read: “poor”) countries are narrowly specialized in primary commodities
 - C. Small producers are unable to survive when compelled to compete on the world market