

# GLOBAL

Fifth Edition

# STRATEGIC

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— Sergio Lazzarini, Insper Learning Institution, Brazil

'Lasserre and Monteiro provide a solid overview of the strategies of globally operating multinationals and the evolving global business environment. The book excels at providing tools for managers and is rich in contemporary data and case examples originating from a wide variety of industries and national contexts.' – Klaus Meyer, Ivey Business School, Canada

'This latest edition of *Global Strategic Management* continues to be the best choice for business students looking to develop a deeper understanding of global business. It contains numerous practical cases and explains concepts from literature in a way that allows for their immediate application. I strongly recommend it to readers and instructors alike.' – Michael Mol, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

'This book offers comprehensive treatment of contemporary global strategy, including coverage of born globals, emerging markets and open innovation, topics on which Monteiro is a leading authority. By highlighting the Sustainable Development Goals and the need for a post-Covid-19 'green recovery', the text equips business leaders of the future for the Decade of Action and beyond.' – Shameen Prashantham, China Europe International Business School, China

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'This textbook combines academic rigor with practical relevance, addressing fundamental concepts as well as current and future trends in globalization. It provides a truly multi-faceted global perspective with 33 case studies from more than 20 countries, as well as an even larger number of practical examples.'

- Karlheinz Schwuchow, Hochschule Bremen University of Applied Sciences, Germany

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Philippe Lasserre and Felipe Monteiro

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### Philippe Lasserre:

Pour mes enfants Virginie, Benoit, Marion, mes petits-enfants Abigail, Noé, Hélio, mon arrière-petite-fille Brianna, ma compagne Aline et à la mémoire de Michelle

Oh! combien de marins, combien de capitaines Qui sont partis joyeux pour des courses lointaines ...

Victor Hugo, Oceano Nox (1840)

### Felipe Monteiro:

Para minha esposa Mariana, meus filhos Bernardo e Clara, minha mãe Carmen e em memória do meu pai Luiz Felipe

Navegar é preciso; viver não é preciso

Fernando Pessoa

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4 Globalization, Sustainable Development and Global Responsibility	4.1	An introduction to issues of corporate social responsibility – Shell in Nigeria	Nigeria	114	
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11 Global Innovation	11.2	Global virtual lab at Merck Sharp and Dohme (MSD)	US	443	
13 Global Human Resource Management	13.1	Appointing a divisional manager in France	Switzerland/ France	483	
13 Global Human Resource Management	13.2	ABB's localization programme in China in the late 1990s	Sweden/ Switzerland/ China	504	
14 Designing a Global Organisation	14.1	Evolution of two global organizations: Unilever and Procter & Gamble	UK/ Netherlands/ US	523	
14 Designing a Global Organisation	14.2	Global functional organizational design at Apple	US	528	
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14 Designing a Global Organisation	14.7	Example of a digitally enabled structure: GitLab	Ukraine/ Global	544	
15 Current and Future Trends in GSM	15.1	The Millennium Project	US/Global	578	
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### Tour of the book

### Chapter 1

### Globalization of markets and competition

#### By the end of the chapter you should be able to:

- Inhalization from a macro environment perspective
- Identify the forces pushing towards globalization and the forces pushing for localization
- . Define what globalization means for firms
- · Identify the various steps of globalization for firms
- Make a distinction between multinational and global firms
- . Spell out the benefits and pitfalls of globalization
- Analyse the recent trend of deglobalization
- . Discuss the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on globalization
- Position an industry or a business on the global/multi-local mapping

1 Chapter introductions and learning objectives | provide a guide to the material in each chapter and allow progress to be checked.

2 Mini-cases | help students to apply key concepts in global strategy to the real world of business. They are largely based on a diverse range of 'transnational' companies which operate across the world.



3 Inserts | provide additional information that expands upon and contextualizes key information.

#### Insert 1.1 Theories of globalization

#### Macro theories: free trade and globalization

The theory of comparative advantage, proposed in the early nineteenth century, stated that under free trade, nations will maximize wealth if they export the goods for which they have a relative advantage (Ricardo 1967). The idea is that countries should concentrate on the production of those goods and services at which they are most efficient and export them, whilst buying in other products from abroad. The total global production of goods and services will then be higher than when separate countries try to produce everything themselves. As a theoretical example, imagine two similar industrial parks, one in Malaysia and the other based in the Philippines, both with 10,000 workers, and both producing electrical products. Both sites employ 5,000 workers (half their total effort) to produce computer

	US Sbn Current Price					Average Growth rate	
	1990	2000	2010	2019	2020	1990-2019	
World GDP (US \$bn)	22800	33700	66200	87600	84700	5.10%	
Gross Capital formation	5880	8150	16200	23000	na	5.20%	
Trade (Export of goods and Services)	4300	7940	22900	24800	22600	6.90%	
Foreign Direct Invesments (Inward Stock)	2196	7377	19899	36377	41354	11%	
Foreign Direct Investments (Inflows)	205	1356	1393	1530	999	10%	
Cross Border Mergers and Acquisitions (Value)	98	960	347	423	379	18%	
Sales of Foreign Affiliates	7615	17000	32960	33200*	na	8.43%	
Royalties and Licences fees	31	75	191	427*	na	9.80%	
Employment of Foreign Affiliates (Thousand)	30860	54000	62900	85500	na	5.40%	
Daily Foreign Exchange Transactions (US \$bn)	539	1240	3972	6592	na	9%	

4 Figures and tables | are used extensively to illustrate the theory. xxxvi Tour of the book

#### **EXAMPLE 1.1 Otis Elevators**

Otis Elevator Company started in 1853 in New York and was soon selling elevators in Canada and Europe as well. In the 1960s it had many plants, service operations and sales offices all over Europe, where the company grew organically as well as by acquisition. Each subsidiary fought for a share of local markets. Competitors were either local national companies or subsidiaries of rival multinational companies. The Otis subsidiaries managed all the activities of the value chain (marketing, design, production, installation and service). For instance, the French subsidiary designed elevators for the French market, manufactured them in French factories, sold them with French sales forces and maintained them with a French after-sales organization - the

## 4..... 5 In-chapter examples |

are scattered throughout the text to reinforce how the theory is put into practice. Longer examples are highlighted and exemplify global strategy at work.

#### Summary and key points

- 1 Globalization is the process by which people, products, information and money can move freely
  - a Four factors are pushing globalization:
    - Political: liberalization of trade and investment reduces trade barriers
    - Technological: technology reduces the cost of coordination and increases economies of scale
    - Social: convergence of customer choices encourages standardization and global branding
    - Competitive: emergence of new competitors induces integration companies to compete on all fronts with strong coordination

### ← G Summary and key points

provide an abbreviated version of the main concepts and theories. They are useful for revision and checking understanding of the key points.

#### Learning assignments

- company? Why?
- 2 In Figure 1.9, why are saving accounts positioned low on global approach and high on high on global approach and low on local approach?
- 1 Among the enterprises that you know, can 3 In Figure 1.8, food retail is positioned as a local you identify one that qualifies as a global business, with a very low globalization score. However, in the press, companies like Tesco, Walmart or Carrefour are described as 'global retailers'. Explain this discrepancy.
- local approach while investment banking is 4 What are the social factors that have pushed for globalization, and which have been pushing against it?

#### **4** Learning assignments

test understanding of the chapter and encourage further thought.

8 Key words | appear at the end of each chapter and can be used as checklists for revision.

#### Key words

- · Arbitrage benefits
- Comparative advantage
- · Global companies
- Global industries

- Global/multi-local mapping
- Globalization
- · International product life cycle
- Multinational companies

**9 Web resources** | are included ..... for students who want to delve a little further.

#### Web Resources

http://knowledge.insead.edu/

Businessweek magazine:

https://www.bloomberg.com/businessweek

McKinsey Quarterly:

http://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/ UNCTAD: http://unctad.org/en/Pages/Home.aspx Boston Consulting Group: https://www.bcgperspectives.com/

Provides information about the WTO:

http://www.wto.org/

Provides statistics and papers from the IMF.

http://www.imf.org/

https://www.globaltradealert.org/

#### References and further reading

#### Books and articles

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#### **4**······ 10 References and further

reading | identify key texts for further research and include books and journal articles.

# Companion website

Visit the companion website at **bloomsbury.pub/global-strategic-management-5e** for a range of teaching and learning resources including:

## Global Strategic Management

5th Edition

by Philippe Lasserre and Felipe Monteiro

Home Instructor Resources Student Resources Seamlessly blending academic rigour and practicality, this textbook provides an introduction to global business strategy. Assuming a born global perspective, *Global Strategic Management* is supported by ample pedagogical features, including numerous case studies and examples featuring both established multinationals and unknown SMEs from across the globe.

The book takes an applied approach to global business strategy, emphasising functional parts of international business (managing marketing, operations, HR and finance). New to this fifth edition is increased material on sustainability and corporate social responsibility, including discussion of climate change, NGOs and sustainable development goals. Subjects such as the impact of technology, cryptocurrency and global strategy in the digital space are discussed in more detail.



## For instructors:

- Microsoft® PowerPoint presentations for each chapter
- · Answers to mini-case questions
- Answers to learning assignments
- A testbank of multiple choice and essay questions
- Videos illustrating issues covered in the chapters of the book

#### For students:

- Multiple choice questions for revision
- Appendices

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## Introduction to the fifth edition

The fifth edition of this book was prepared from 2020 to mid 2022, a time in which the Covid-19 pandemic severely impacted economic, social and health conditions. More than 500 million people were infected with the Coronavirus and more than 6.3 million people have died as of June 2022. In early 2022 Russia invaded Ukraine affecting global trade and investments and disrupting global supplies.

Those events have triggered large-scale government support for businesses and industries and the recovery presents a unique occasion to rethink and reset priorities when rebuilding, focusing efforts on the sustainability, resilience and inclusiveness aspects of governments' policies and businesses' strategies and actions.

During this unprecedented time, businesses adapted rapidly to both changes in consumers' behaviours and a shift to remote working, rapidly deploying digital systems to accommodate these changes. The general consensus is that the move to digital, hybrid ways of working and work from everywhere trends are likely to persist even after the pandemic subsides.

Covid-19 has brought globalization front and centre of the debate, highlighting interconnectedness (the virus went global in a few weeks) and deglobalization (the difficulties in international cooperation and the re-emergence of nationalisms in the provision of vaccines, medical supplies, protective masks, etc.). The pandemic and the Ukrainian war have also highlighted the interdependence of global production and supply chains, as well as the risks and fragilities that they are exposed to, forcing multinationals to revise their localization and procurement strategies to gain resilience in the current uncertain environment.

Furthermore, a resurgence of several forms of nationalism in Russia, Turkey, China, Central Europe and the USA have given a new momentum to protectionism. The European Union itself, one of the most ambitious international integrative organizations, showed some signs of both disillusion and dissolution, with Brexit being the most notorious example. Even the emerging world is experiencing some economic slowdown. As a response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine in early 2022, Western democracies, lead by the US, UK and EU, imposed a series of economic and financial sanctions against Russia that affected global trade and finances in energy, food and disrupted global supply chains. In spite of uncertain signs, many corporations from all over the world have shown a willingness to pursue their quest for global markets. OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) firms are still looking at emerging economies in order to capture the consumption appetite of their expanding middle classes. New champions from emerging countries are progressively planting investments outside their boundaries and developing an appetite for acquiring companies in the industrial world.

On the technological front, the recent period has seen confirmation that the world has fully entered into a digital era that permeates nearly all segments of human activities: health, industrial production, entertainment, communication research and development and more.

This new edition considers that globalization is still an ongoing, fundamental economic phenomenon, but tries to take into consideration the above-mentioned geopolitical, technological and climatic trends. The objectives of this edition are to help students and managers to understand the forces that drive globalization and to put together all aspects of global strategic management to provide firms with the relevant skills to support their global ambitions. It is still about global firms and global management. Its objective remains to help graduate and undergraduate students to understand the main issues that companies and their managers confront when they 'go global' or 'manage globally', and how to cope with them. Data and narratives have been updated in light of the aforementioned new developments, and several case examples added. At the end of each chapter there are now one or two Mini-cases that students may discuss in class.

The book has been designed as a support for specialized courses on strategic management for global firms or courses on international business, and is equivalent to a series of course notes to be read in preparation for a class or afterwards. Students will normally be assigned a case study for each of the topics covered in the book. It can also be used as a reference guide for managers and executives.

There are a number of excellent textbooks on international business already available. How does this book compare?

First, the focus of the book is on business firms and their employees. It has eliminated from the text the macroeconomic and political factors that traditional international business textbooks cover, such as international trade and investment flows, the problems of economic development in emerging countries, analysis of international and regional institutions (such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations (UN), the World Bank and other development banks, the European Union (EU), the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)), as well as geopolitical analysis of diplomacy and defence. It is assumed that students who are interested in those topics will read specialized books or attend courses taught by economists or political scientists.

Second, the book takes the view that the traditional international business paradigm, based on the study of investments in 'foreign' countries by 'home'-country firms, is no longer sufficient for studying global firms. International and multinational firms controlling a vast array of 'foreign subsidiaries' have been in existence for a long time but, since the 1970s, the concept of 'global' firms has progressively imposed itself at the nexus of borderless strategic thinking. Global firms have increasingly shed their original nationality to manage a network of firms in an integrated and coordinated way out of 'centres' that are no longer necessarily located in their country of origin. Those firms 'without borders' make up the vanguard of the modern industrial architecture. More and more 'born global' companies and small and middle-sized firms have improved their global presence.

Some chapters have been strengthened to deal with the new reality of multinational corporations as they put environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) at the front and centre of their strategies and operations.

New sections have been added to emphasize the role of digital technologies, which have revolutionized consumer behaviours, impacted core business models and blurred borders between industries and sectors. In the case of multinational corporations, these disruptive digital tools have also enabled

productive and innovative networks, supply chain management and marketing of products and services at a distance. The chapter on global alliances has been augmented with references to global ecosystems.

This edition, like the previous ones, is inspired largely by theoretical and empirical work. Obviously, classical issues such as entry strategies or expatriate management will not be forgotten, but the overall tone of the book looks at how, ultimately, international or multinational firms become global and are managed globally.

Third, the book aims to describe and analyse the key strategic and managerial challenges for firms, but does not pretend to be exhaustive or encyclopaedic. Many theoretical developments have been deliberately omitted: transaction costs theory, locational theory and agency theory, for instance. We have also avoided the temptation to provide long lists of publications. Instead, we have concentrated solely on the most relevant literature in each discussion. A more extensive list of references and further reading is available at the end of each chapter.

Several Examples and Mini-cases have been inserted in the chapters in order to illustrate the points made in the text. In addition, a number of online appendices can be found on the companion website, which provide further information on cryptocurrency, global/local mapping, country profiles, government support programs, globalization indices, country comparisons, cash flow adjustment, different types of risk, organizational design and scenario construction. These can be accessed and downloaded via the companion website, at **bloomsbury.pub/global-strategic-management-5e**.

Finally, the book owes a considerable debt to the work done by professors or ex-professors at INSEAD Business School, and has favoured their works rather than those of others. This has been a deliberate choice, given the long-standing involvement of the authors in the intellectual life of this institution.

## The structure of the book

As Figure 0.1 shows, the bulk of the book is organized into three parts of unequal length according to the classical strategic framework of Environment, Strategy, Implementation: which in this case translates to Global Contexts, Global Strategies and Managing Globally. The Current and Future Trends in Globalization and the long case study on Global Strategic Management in Action (Chapter 16) tie up the arguments presented in that structure.

## How can this book be used?

This book can be used in three ways:

- 1 As a stand-alone textbook for a course based on lectures and exercises. At the end of each chapter there are questions that can serve as learning assignments to prepare for such lectures, or to follow them.
- 2 As background reading for a course based on case studies. To that end Appendix I.1 (see companion website) lists potential cases that can be used to support each chapter of the book. Those cases

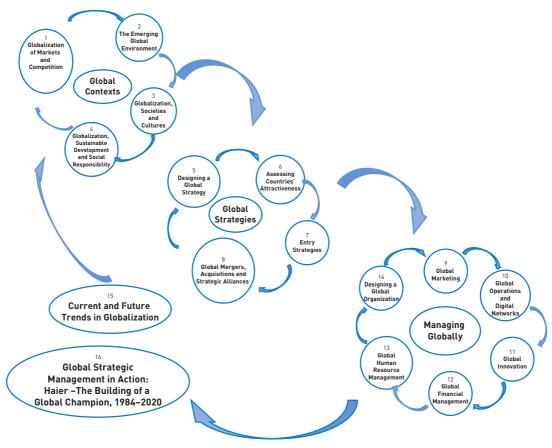


Figure 0.1 Structure of the book

- are available from the most important case platforms, such as INSEAD Publishing, Harvard Business School Publishing and The Case Center. There are also some excellent casebooks available.<sup>2</sup>
- 3 As a reference book, particularly in executive programmes or for individual readers who wish to get acquainted with global strategic management without being burdened by too much theory and background reading.

## **Notes**

- 1 Inkpen and Ramaswamy (2006); Tallman (2009); Peng (2021).
- 2 De la Torre, Doz and Devinney (2001); Bartlett and Ghoshal (2002).

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(ISSN)1520-6874

## Part I

## Global contexts

Chapter 1 Globalization of markets and competition | Chapter 1 defines what 'globalization' means, first from a geopolitical and economical point of view and second for business enterprises. It looks at the many political, technological, social and economic factors that have driven globalization as well as the ones restraining it. It describes how companies have over time moved from being national to international, then to multinational and finally becoming global firms. It ends by proposing a mapping of industries and firms according to the extent to which they are exposed to globalization or localization drivers.

Chapter 2 The emerging global environment | Chapter 2 underlines the growing importance of emerging countries, their companies and their markets in the world since the 1980s. It describes the main characteristics of emerging countries, their development paths and their attractiveness as markets and as offshore operational bases, as well as their competitiveness and the role of their global champions. Strategies for doing business in emerging countries will also be discussed.

Chapter 3 Globalization, societies and cultures | Chapter 3 discusses how in different parts of the world societies still differ in terms of the ways economic activities are structured, coordinated and managed, and how cultures influence the behaviour of people and organizations. It begins with a presentation of different streams of research showing international differences in business cultures and economic organizations. Various cross-cultural studies will be presented, followed by a discussion of the impact of cultural differences on management, cross-cultural teams, negotiations and business practices. The last part of the chapter deals specifically with international negotiations.

Chapter 4 Globalization, sustainable development and social responsibility | This chapter addresses some of the issues that global companies face concerning environmental and ethical challenges. Particular emphasis is put on the kind of ethical dilemma global firms and managers have to confront in their worldwide operations – issues such as corruption, tax evasion, environmental protection, human rights, labour laws and gender equality.

# Chapter 1

## Globalization of markets and competition

By the end of the chapter you should be able to:



- Define globalization from a macro environment perspective
- Identify the forces pushing towards globalization and the forces pushing for localization
- Define what globalization means for firms
- Identify the various steps of globalization for firms
- Make a distinction between multinational and global firms
- Spell out the benefits and pitfalls of globalization
- Analyse the recent trend of deglobalization
- Discuss the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on globalization
- Position an industry or a business on the global/multi-local mapping

### Introduction

Chapter 1 defines what 'globalization' means: firstly from a geopolitical and economic point of view, and secondly for business enterprises. It looks at the many political, technological, social and economic factors that have driven globalization, as well as those restraining it. It describes how many companies have evolved, over time, from 'national' to 'international', then 'multinational' and finally 'global'. Using an example, the chapter looks at how a *multinational* company having foreign subsidiaries can become *global* by extending its operations worldwide and adopting a competitive configuration through strong coordination and integration of its international activities across borders. Both the benefits and constraints of globalization are described. Some factors still push towards a local approach to management, on a country-by-country basis, and the elements inducing this localization are analysed.

Finally, the global/multi-local mapping matrix is presented as a tool to position industries, companies and businesses according to the relative importance they place on global versus local approaches. The chapter ends by introducing some of the societal issues associated with globalization.

## The phenomenon of globalization

Since the 1960s, international trade, investment and migration have all grown much faster than the world economy. Firms have multiplied their presence outside their country of origin, employing more and more people and selling and buying technology internationally (see Table 1.1 and Figure 1.1). More products are sold in similar stores, with similar features carrying a common brand across the globe. Factories that were prosperous in the Western world have been closed and transferred to lower-cost countries. English is now considered the *lingua franca* for major business transactions. Events happening in one location are visible in real time everywhere thanks to the internet and social networks. This is what is commonly referred to as the process of 'globalization'.

Table 1.1 Globalization data

	US\$ bn Current Price					Average Growth Rate
	1990	2000	2010	2019	2020	1990–2019
World GDP (US \$bn)	22800	33700	66200	87600	84700	5.10%
Gross Capital Formation	5880	8150	16200	23000	na	5.20%
Trade (Export of Goods and Services)	4300	7940	22900	24800	22600	6.90%
Foreign Direct Invesments (Inward Stock)	2196	7377	19899	36377	41354	11%
Foreign Direct Investments (Inflows)	205	1356	1393	1530	999	10%
Cross Border Mergers and Acquisitions (Value)	98	960	347	423	379	18%
Sales of Foreign Affiliates	7615	17000	32960	33200*	na	8.43%
Royalties and Licence fees	31	75	191	427*	na	9.80%
Employment of Foreign Affiliates (Thousand)	30860	54000	62900	85500	na	5.40%
Daily Foreign Exchange Transactions (US \$bn)	539	1240	3972	6592	na	9%

Source: Authors' own, based on data from World Bank, World Development Indicators: https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators; UNCTAD: https://unctad.org/statistics; BIS (Bank of International Settlements): https://www.bis.org/statistics/rpfx19.htm?m=6%7C381%7C677.

In today's business world, managers, politicians, journalists and academics commonly refer to concepts such as 'globalization', 'global industries', 'global competition', 'global strategies' and so on. While those terms are widely used, their exact meaning is often not well understood. For some people, globalization is considered to be the intrusion of foreigners into local communities. Its effect is viewed as a destruction of the social fabric within nations. For others, it means freedom of movement, entrepreneurship, an exchange of cultures and harmonization. As far as the corporate world is concerned, some are certain it means 'to expand the company's presence abroad'; for others, it means 'standardizing a product and selling it to the world'; for others still, it denotes an approach to management in which decision making is centralized at corporate headquarters. There are many reasons for this confusion. One relates to the fact that the phenomenon of globalization

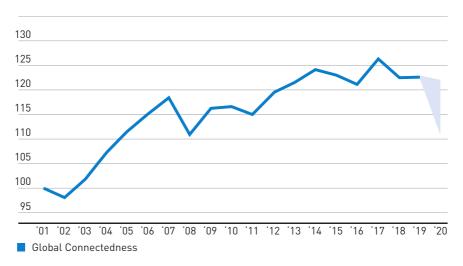


Figure 1.1 DHL Global Connectedness Index

Source: The Global Connectedness Index is a combination of measures concerning the global movement of trade, capital, Information and people, https://www.dhl.com/content/dam/dhl/global/dhl-spotlight/documents/pdf/spotlight-g04-global-connectedness-index-2020.pdf.

describes macroeconomic and political change, while for the business world it denotes a strategic and managerial issue. While the concept of globalization is relatively new, the phenomenon is not. There have been periods in history when the world was without borders, and citizens, products and money could move freely. Theories have been developed to explain and advocate free trade and globalization from the macro point of view, and to explain the process of globalization from the business point of view (see Insert 1.1). As far as the business world is concerned, before the 1970s the most frequently used terminology, when referring to integrated operating across the world, was 'international', 'multinational' or occasionally 'transnational'. Even if we ignore the East India Company, which started in the early seventeenth century, modern corporations such as Unilever, Nestlé and Procter & Gamble were operating all over the world by the end of the nineteenth century. They are known as multinational companies, but nobody would have called them global fifty years ago. The global concept appeared in the early 1970s and progressively invaded boardrooms, classrooms and business literature. What is the exact meaning of globalization? What forces generated it? And what are the consequences for firms?

There is no single, well-established definition of globalization. Here we will posit as a working definition: 'The process by which people, products, information and money can move freely across borders'. As a consequence, markets may tend to converge, providing opportunities for the standardization of products, for production centres to be (re)located to more economical places, and for R&D labs to be distributed across countries. As we will see, this implies a more centralized management of firms. Before examining the many aspects of corporate life impacted by the phenomenon of globalization, we will first look at the macroeconomic, technological and political factors that have generated such a global environment, and then look at how firms have changed their operations to take advantage of the new opportunities this environment offers.

## **Insert 1.1** Theories of globalization

### Macro theories: free trade and globalization

The theory of comparative advantage, proposed in the early nineteenth century, stated that under free trade, nations will maximize wealth if they export the goods for which they have a relative advantage (Ricardo 1967). The idea is that countries should concentrate on the production of those goods and services at which they are most efficient and export them, whilst buying in other products from abroad. The total global production of goods and services will then be higher than when separate countries try to produce everything themselves. As a theoretical example, imagine two similar industrial parks, one in Malaysia and the other based in the Philippines, both with 10,000 workers, and both producing electrical products. Both sites employ 5,000 workers (half their total effort) to produce computer motherboards and 5,000 workers to make videogame consoles. The Malaysian operation is able to produce 10 million motherboards per year and the Philippines 8 million, while the Malaysians produce 200,000 consoles to the Philippines' 250,000. Malaysia has, therefore, demonstrated a comparative advantage over the Philippines for motherboards and Philippines has a comparative advantage over Malaysia for consoles. The total global output in the current situation will be 18 million motherboards and 450,000 consoles per year. For better results, Malaysia should concentrate on producing motherboards and trading them, while the Philippines should focus its efforts on consoles. In this situation the global output rises to 20 million motherboards and 500,000 consoles, marking an 11 per cent increase in both motherboards and consoles.

World-system theories suggest that globalization is the product of nationalistic, capitalistic, colonial and international expansion (Wallerstein 1974, 2000; Robinson 2004). For instance, from the sixteenth century the colonial expansion of Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Britain and France created a global market for a certain number of commodities. Later, the USA and Japan became colonial imperialistic global powers. In other words, since the appearance of modern shipping vessels and navigation systems, truly global trade has become possible.

*Marxism* views globalization as the result of the tendency of the return on capital to decrease, forcing capitalists to find new territories to exploit. Lenin argued that the ultimate stage of capitalism was imperialism (Marx and Engels 1848; Lenin 1917). The argument is that the profits of firms tend to decrease because of intense competition. Firms react by merging and looking for markets outside their national boundaries, creating global oligopolies, for example Holcim Group, Apple and Samsung.

Network society theories see globalization as the result of the vested interests of a transnational capitalistic class (managers, politicians, bureaucrats, bankers), as well as of supranational organizations such as the WTO, UN and EU (Castells 1996; Sklair 2000). Advances in telecommunications and the rise of the internet have made it possible for business to be conducted globally, both in terms of financial transactions and internationally connected production systems.

Technological cultural theories propose that information technologies have led to a convergence of culture (Robertson 1992; Ritzer 1993). Very similar in essence to McLuhan's 'Global Village' concept,<sup>1</sup>

these theories state that thanks to technology, people in different countries increasingly tend to share a common culture and consumer choices, making global product design and production possible and desirable.

The World 3.0 theory, developed by Professor Pankaj Ghemawat, holds that humanity has followed four stages of social, political and economic organization and trade. The first stage (World 0.0) refers to the prehistoric period in which societies were organized into thousands of tribes surviving by hunting and gathering, and where human interactions were limited to those between the members of tribes, with practically no external trade. The second stage (World 1.0) refers to the formation of political entities in the forms of cities or empires (China, Sumer, Aztec), governing several thousands to millions of peoples (mainly farmers) under a political power structure (an empire or kingdom). Mostly economically self-sufficient, these states introduced some international transactions, but limited exchange mechanisms (such as trade via the Silk Road). World 2.0 started in the seventeenth century with the colonial expansion of European powers and the creation of nation states. The first multinationals, such as the British East India Company, extended their reach as far as Asia. During the nineteenth century, thanks to transportation and communication innovations, multinational firms from Europe, America and Japan developed. After a decline between the two world wars, global development exploded and saw the formation of the modern business juggernauts such as Nestlé, General Electric and Siemens that we see today. The driving force of World 2.0 in the postwar years was a progressive deregulation and integration of markets. World 3.0 is predicted to evolve, following the global financial crisis of 2008, as a world that is characterized by a high level of market integration but also a high level of government regulation, in what has been called semiglobalization.

## Micro theories: corporate globalization

Transaction cost theories posit that multinational firms result from the economic benefits of internalizing costs of transaction rather than relying on contracts to regulate contact with international economic agents (Buckley and Casson 1976).

Resource-based theories suggest that firms take advantage of their proprietary assets (technology, capital) to expand their presence in international markets (Barney 1991).

Resource seeking theories explain the global expansion of firms by their desire to obtain resources they don't have (Dunning 1993).

The Eclectic (OLI) theory of International production asserts that internationalization of firms is determined by three sets of forces: the ownership of a competitive advantage (O), the location of an attractive external country where to invest (L) and the benefits of internalizing the operations (I) (Dunning 2001).

The Uppsala model of Internationalization (Johnson and Vahine 1977) proposes that the process of internationalization is a process of gradual resources commitments based on the knowledge about foreign markets possessed by a firm and the perceived risks and opportunities.

## Globalization from a macro perspective

Historically the world has experienced various periods of intense trade across continents and free movement of people and capital (see Insert 1.2), in particular during the nineteenth century after the Napoleonic wars. After a decrease due to the two world wars of the twentieth century, several factors generated the emergence of the new economic environment that we call 'global'.<sup>3</sup> During the 1950s and the 1960s the convergence of several political, technological, social and competitive factors began to shape this new environment.<sup>4</sup>

## **Insert 1.2** History of globalization

In a book published in 2020, Jeffrey Sachs, from Columbia University, states that 'Humanity has always been globalized, since the dispersal of modern humans from Africa some seventy thousand years ago'. <sup>5</sup> He identifies seven distinct periods (ages) of globalization determined by the interplay of three major sets of factors: Geography, Institutions and Technology, and Know-how. The seven ages are:

- **1** Paleolithic (70,000–10,000 BCE): When the migration from the African nest of Homo sapiens reached sites along the Middle East coastal areas.
- 2 Neolithic (10,000–3000 BCE): Further global expansion in this period is linked with the development of agriculture progressively replacing hunting and allowed the settlement of population in the temperate zones of Europe and the Middle and Far East.
- **3** Equestrian (3000–1000 BCE): Fostered by the progressive domestication of animals (goat, camel, sheep, cattle, horses). The horse allowed the transport of goods on long distances and permitted the migrations and trade to northern Europe, India and China.
- **4** Classical (1000 BCE–1500 CE): Fostered by the creation of empires motivated by political and/ or religious motives. Mongols, Roman, Assyrian, Persian, Greek, Arab, Ottoman empires are examples of such cultural, economic global developments.
- 5 Ocean (1500–1800 CE): The development of trans-oceanic sailing vessels initiated the Spanish and Portuguese implantation in America and Asia followed by British, Dutch and French explorers, creating the first global capitalism and colonialism illustrated by the advent of global trading houses.
- **6** Industrial (1800–2000 CE): The steam engine was the initiator of industrialization in Britain in the nineteenth century, which cumulated with the technological development of communication, transport and the expansion of the multinational firms.
- 7 Digital (twenty-first century): The global connectivity of the internet and artificial intelligence offers multiple possibilities for designing new global transactions reinforcing the world.

## What are the factors that push for globalization?

#### Political factors: liberalization of trade and investments

The main political factor has been the stabilization of postwar peace in Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries, which allowed the development of free trade among nations. Two main organizations have been the source of trade liberalization – the General

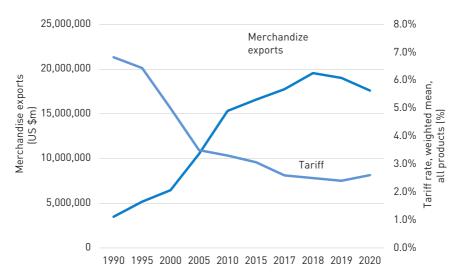


Figure 1.2 Tariff reductions and international trade
Source: Authors' creation using data from various World Bank Indicators.

Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) (replaced by the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1995) and the European Union – to which one may add the progressive opening of emerging nations to foreign investments.

The GATT, founded in 1946 by twenty-three nations, initiated a series of negotiations, called 'rounds', aimed at reducing tariff concessions to encourage the liberalization of trade. The Kennedy Round in the mid-1960s, the Tokyo Round in the early 1970s, the Uruguay Round in late 1980s and the Doha Round in 2001 created an environment that fostered international trade, as shown in Figure 1.2.

The European Economic Community (EEC), later subsumed by the European Union (EU), was established on 25 March 1957 by the Treaty of Rome, which was signed by Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. The aim was to create a common market, and economic and political integration among the six member states. As a result, goods, people and financial flows could move freely across countries. During the 1970s, the EEC was enlarged with the entry of the UK, Ireland and Denmark, followed by Spain, Portugal and Greece in the 1980s, Sweden, Austria and Finland in the 1990s, and Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Malta, Hungary, Estonia, Cyprus, Romania, Bulgaria and Croatia in the early 2000s. In 1993, a single market which eliminated most legal and bureaucratic barriers was established among the member states. In 1999, a single currency, the euro, was adopted by nineteen countries, and passport-free travelling without any border controls was allowed between twenty-six countries as part of the Schengen Agreement signed in 1985. Companies could integrate their operations across Europe to take advantage of a market of 500 million customers and gain economies of scale by specializing and concentrating their operations. In 2020 the UK Left the European Union.

In addition, from 1948 to 2020 the number of preferential trade agreements (PTA) and regional trade agreements (RTA) notified to the GATT/WTO increased from practically none to around 600 in 2020 with