

1. Examine the interaction between the nation-state and international organizations. Which has the greatest impact on government?

First, we can say that the international organizations emphasize the innate rights of the individual, and the nation-state emphasizes the government's responsibility to the nation. Thus, for better or worse, nation-states rule the world today. So powerful are nation-states that they use international organizations for their own purposes and this is where their interaction came from. At this point we can say that the nation-state has the greatest impact because International Organizations (IOs) are not sovereign but the states are - which indicates and is often the case that they control decision within the state and their outward facing relationships. Hence IOs can fine, take legal actions and say words but cannot force governments to do things nonetheless the state can. States are sovereign and they make decisions through governments which is part of the state. They also form IOs and are the form of IOs, without them IOs would not happen and they finally decide on the IOs action through joint votes and input.

2. Do civil society and INGOs strengthen or undermine the role of the governments in international relations? Why or why not?

Civil society and INGOs can strengthen organizational structures and processes to reach a common goal, and one of those goals may be international relations. Many non-government organizations are associated with international organizations that work on common goals just like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These especially reach out to third world countries who may need financial backups and technical support which the government may not offer. They may also offer strategies or practices that government may implement to improve current systems. Thus, as they help one and the other, international relations are strengthened. They cannot weaken the role, because National Governments always have the right to expel the INGO from its ports and borders.

3. Are the civil society and other organizations truly separated from the governments' action and policies? In what ways can the state maintain its sovereignty amid globalization?

Yes, the governments, civil society and even corporations (multinationals mainly and some locals) are all linked. So how state maintain its sovereignty despite globalization is first, though every nation wants progress and development and want to see itself at the top of other nations. State and people should not forget its uniqueness which is its culture, traditional practices, conservation practices towards environment, core values, and etc. So, it is imperative that government and citizens of that particular nation or state maintain balance between the two. Second, as globalization brings influence of other countries into particular country, it becomes vital for the government and citizens to take precautionary steps although this takes too much efforts yet this helps state maintain its sovereignty, by way of making either citizens aware through campaigning, mass movements and by empowerment and by way of teaching the importance of preservation of core values and not to distort them by way of impacts of globalization. Lastly, government can take steps towards keeping and maintaining its sovereignty by way of making rules and regulations, and laws related to various foreign industries, foreign direct investment, foreign technologies, and etc. So that country's certainty can be maintained.

1. Compare and contrast globalism and informationalism.

Globalism and Informationalism are both referring to the interconnectedness of people and nations across the globe. They are both indicators of trade and communication between distant lands across the globe. Globalism is a generalization of this interconnectedness while informationalism pertains to a specific mode or medium that leads to this interconnectedness and that specific mode is the internet. Informationalism focuses on the power of information technology and computer science to connect people, nations, and states. It bridges the physical gaps and barriers by introducing everyone to a virtual world of information where everything seems to be easy to reach, thus easier flow of information and easier trade all with the use of fiber optic cables and satellites connecting every country. Tools in the information era are online platforms like Social Networking Sites and Online Messaging.

2. What are the barriers to our collective learning in the age of information?

The barriers are, but not limited to the following:

- Lack of or inferior internet infrastructure for rural communities far from urban areas
- States capable of censoring the internet and controlling information e. g. China
- Regional blocking of internet content
- The Internet may be too expensive for some
- Slow connection

3. Will geopolitical boundaries and physical barriers still be relevant in the future given the nature of information and information revolution?

Every new innovation that improves the internet infrastructure makes it cheaper allowing everyone to connect. As we move forward to the future, more and more are allowed to be connected to the internet. The internet may help eliminate physical barriers with more and more people connected but it is only at that point that it can help, when it can connect people. Technology is a very powerful tool for good, but it can also be used for bad. Technology is created by humans and thus is controlled by humans. When states start to seek control of this information gateway, the internet itself can become a barrier and not a bridge. It is easy for states to block websites that might be against their agenda and to silence people or press from speaking on the internet. With the growing reliance on the internet, the power of a simple disconnection or block is massive. China already takes control of what people see on their networks. We already see signs of the internet possibly used as a weapon. Huawei, the top internet infrastructure manufacturer based in China, is being accused of their ability to remotely disconnect people on the internet by disabling their products whenever the Chinese government asks them in times of dispute. Most of Huawei's products are used for the core network infrastructure and when the core shuts down, everything follows.