THE IMPACT OF GLOBALISATION ON NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

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Abstract

This study examines the impact of globalisation on national sovereignty, with a focus on a comparative analysis between developed and developing countries. The primary objective is to explore how globalisation has altered the sovereignty of nations in both contexts, specifically in terms of economic independence and political autonomy. The study employs a comparative case study methodology, analysing data from three developed countries (the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom) and three developing countries (Nigeria, India, and Brazil). Data were collected from academic literature, government reports, international organisation, and media sources. The findings reveal that globalisation has significantly weakened national sovereignty in both groups of countries, although the nature of this impact varies. In developed countries, the loss of control is mostly economic and political, with trade agreements and multinational corporations exerting substantial influence. Conversely, in developing countries, sovereignty is compromised by economic dependence on global markets, foreign aid, and the dominance of multinational corporations. A key recommendation is that both developed and developing countries should renegotiate trade agreements and strengthen local industries to regain a degree of autonomy in the face of globalisation.

Keywords: *Globalisation, National Sovereignty, Developed Countries, Developing Countries, Trade Agreements.*

Introduction

Globalisation refers to the process by which nations, businesses, and individuals become more interconnected through the exchange of goods, services, information, and culture across borders. This process, fuelled by advancements in technology, trade liberalisation, and international cooperation, has dramatically reshaped the global landscape over the past few decades. National sovereignty, on the other hand, is the concept that a state possesses full control over its territory, laws, and political affairs, free from external interference (Dunne & Schmidt, 2017). While globalisation has led to economic prosperity and technological advancement, it has also posed significant challenges to the traditional understanding of sovereignty. The growing interdependence among states, the influence of international organisation, and the rise of multinational corporations have all contributed to a redefinition of sovereignty.

The interaction between globalisation and sovereignty is complex. On one hand, globalisation offers economic benefits, such as access to global markets and technological innovation. On the other hand, it can undermine a nation's control over its domestic policies, particularly when international treaties, global trade agreements, or multinational corporations exert influence. This dynamic is particularly significant when comparing developed and developing countries, as their responses to and the impacts of globalisation can vary considerably due to their different political, economic, and social contexts (Held & McGrew, 2019).

The central issue of this study is how globalisation impacts national sovereignty, with a particular focus on the differences between developed and developing countries. Globalisation has raised critical questions about the preservation of sovereignty as countries navigate complex global networks that can limit their ability to make independent decisions. In developed nations, sovereignty might be affected by external pressures from trade agreements, international organisation, and the global financial system. In contrast, developing countries may face additional challenges, such as economic dependency on foreign aid, loss of control over natural resources, and vulnerability to the decisions of global institutions.

This comparative study is crucial because understanding how globalisation influences sovereignty in different national contexts can help policymakers devise strategies that safeguard sovereignty while benefiting from global cooperation. The findings can also inform the global debate on the future of state sovereignty in an increasingly interconnected world.

The aim of this study is to explore and compare the impacts of globalisation on national sovereignty in both developed and developing countries. The specific objectives of the study include: analysing how globalisation affects national sovereignty in developed countries, with a focus on political, economic, and cultural sovereignty; examining the impact of globalisation on national sovereignty in developing countries, particularly regarding economic dependency and political autonomy; identifying any key differences in the way these effects are experienced by developed and developing nations; and providing insights into how countries can balance the benefits of globalisation with the need to protect their sovereignty.

The research was guided by the following questions: How does globalisation affect national sovereignty in developed countries, particularly in terms of economic and political independence? How does globalisation impact national sovereignty in developing countries, especially regarding economic dependency and loss of political autonomy? Are there distinct differences in the way these effects are experienced by developed and developing nations? What are the implications for national sovereignty in the age of globalisation, and how can countries navigate these challenges?

This study is particularly significant in the context of contemporary global politics, where the effects of globalisation are felt across all aspects of state governance. The increasing interconnectedness of economies, the spread of cultural practices, and the dominance of global organisation such as the United Nations, World Trade Organisation (WTO), and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have altered the way sovereignty is understood and exercised. For developed countries, globalisation may provide opportunities for economic growth and political cooperation, but it also leads to compromises in terms of policy autonomy. For developing countries, the impact of globalisation may be more pronounced, as they often face challenges related to economic dependency, loss of cultural identity, and the erosion of political sovereignty due to foreign influence. Understanding these dynamics is crucial for informing international policy and helping countries navigate the tensions between global integration and national self-determination (Giddens, 2017; Steger, 2019).

The study contributes to a deeper understanding of how national sovereignty is redefined in the era of globalisation. It will also provide practical insights for policymakers in both developed and developing countries to better balance global participation with the need to protect their sovereignty.

The paper is structured as follows: Section 2 will present a literature review, providing a theoretical framework for understanding globalisation and national sovereignty, and a review of existing studies comparing their impact in developed and developing countries. Section 3 will describe the research methodology, detailing the case study selection, data collection methods, and analytical techniques used to compare the impact of globalisation on sovereignty. Section 4 will present the results of the comparative analysis, outlining the specific impacts of Globalisation on national sovereignty in the selected countries. Section 5 will offer conclusions, summarise the main findings, and provide recommendations for countries on how to protect their sovereignty while engaging in the global system.

Literature Review

Globalisation, often driven by technological advancement and economic liberalisation, has significantly reshaped the nature of state sovereignty. Scholars such as Giddens (2017) and Steger (2019) note that globalisation facilitates economic growth and international cooperation, but also reduces the autonomous authority of states, especially through trade agreements and transnational regulatory systems. Dunne and Schmidt (2017) further explain that this erosion of sovereignty is particularly evident when global institutions like the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) impose constraints on domestic policymaking.

Held and McGrew (2019) argued that the weakening of national control is more acute in developing countries due to economic dependency and foreign aid conditionalities. This is echoed by Akinola (2017) and Mello (2020), who show how external actors shape internal policies in Nigeria and Brazil, respectively. Meanwhile, in developed countries, sovereignty challenges emerge through multinational agreements and supranational entities, as shown in studies on the EU and the US by Bergsten (2017) and Ikenberry (2018).

Overall, the literature agrees that while globalisation brings opportunities, it often compromises the capacity of states—particularly in the Global South—to independently manage economic and political affairs.

Globalisation and National Sovereignty

Globalisation refers to the increasing interconnectedness of economies, cultures, and societies through the movement of goods, services, information, and people across borders. The concept of globalisation has been a central theme in international relations since the late 20th century, driven by advancements in technology, communication, and transportation (Giddens, 2017). It is characterized by the liberalisation of markets, the expansion of global trade, the spread of cultural practices, and the rise of multinational corporations. However, these developments have led to debates regarding their impact on national sovereignty, traditionally understood as a state's authority to govern itself without external interference.

National sovereignty has its roots in the Treaty of Westphalia (1648), which established the principle of state sovereignty and non-intervention in the affairs of other states. Over time, this concept became a cornerstone of international law and political theory, symbolising the autonomy of states in matters of governance, lawmaking, and resource control (Dunne & Schmidt, 2017). In the age of globalisation, the traditional notion of sovereignty has been challenged by the increasing influence of global institutions, such as the United Nations, World Trade Organisation, and International Monetary Fund, which play significant roles in shaping domestic policies. Critics argue that globalisation has led to a "hollowing out" of state sovereignty, as national governments are often forced to align their policies with international agreements and standards that may undermine their autonomy (Held & McGrew, 2019).

Historically, the relationship between globalisation and sovereignty has evolved. During the post-World War II period, the formation of international organisation such as the United Nations and the European Union reflected a shift towards cooperation and collective governance, often at the expense of absolute sovereignty. In the neoliberal era, starting in the 1980s, there was a stronger push for market-driven globalisation, which emphasized free trade, deregulation, and privatisation. While these policies led to economic growth, they also increased the influence of global markets and transnational corporations, further eroding the ability of states to control their own economies and political decisions (Steger, 2019). The growing interdependence among states has led to a rethinking of sovereignty, with many scholars arguing for a more flexible understanding of sovereignty that allows for cooperation without sacrificing essential aspects of national control (Keohane & Nye, 2000).

Globalisation 's Impact on Developed Countries

In developed countries, globalisation has had both positive and negative impacts on national sovereignty. On the positive side, globalisation has facilitated economic growth by opening new markets and encouraging international trade. It has also led to technological advancements and increased cultural exchange, contributing to the prosperity and global influence of nations like the United States, the United Kingdom, and Germany. These countries have been able to leverage their economic power and technological capabilities to shape global norms and rules, thereby maintaining a degree of sovereignty within global governance frameworks (Giddens, 2017).

However, globalisation has also posed challenges to sovereignty in these countries. One of the primary concerns is the loss of control over domestic economic policies due to international agreements and the influence of multinational corporations. For example, the United States' participation in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and various trade agreements has led to the adoption of global trade rules that sometimes limit the country's ability to enact protectionist policies or control domestic industries (Keohane & Nye, 2000). Similarly, the European Union's single market has led to shared sovereignty among member states, as national governments must align their laws and policies with EU regulations. In some cases, this has resulted in conflicts between national interests and EU policies, such as in the case of Brexit, where the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union to regain control over its sovereignty (Bickerton, 2019).

Furthermore, developed countries face challenges related to the power of multinational corporations, which often have more economic influence than some national governments. These corporations can shape policies, set labour standards, and even influence political agenda in developed countries, undermining national sovereignty (Steger, 2019). While developed nations have mechanisms to mitigate these challenges, the growing influence of global capital and supranational institutions raises important questions about the future of national sovereignty in an increasingly globalised world.

For developing countries, globalisation has had a more pronounced impact on national sovereignty, often leading to challenges such as economic dependency, loss of political autonomy, and external influence. In countries like Nigeria, India, and Brazil, globalisation has been associated with the dominance of foreign capital, the outsourcing of labour, and the imposition of economic policies dictated by international financial institutions (Held & McGrew, 2019). These factors often limit the ability of developing countries to make independent decisions regarding their economic and political futures.

In Nigeria, for example, the dominance of oil exports and foreign investment has made the country highly dependent on external markets and foreign capital. While globalisation has brought economic benefits in the form of foreign direct investment and improved access to global markets, it has also contributed to the country's vulnerability to global price fluctuations, particularly in the oil sector. This economic dependence on global markets has eroded Nigeria's sovereignty over its economic policies and resource management, as the country is often subject to external pressures from international financial institutions like the World Bank and the IMF (Giddens, 2017). Moreover, Nigeria's political autonomy has been affected by the influence of foreign governments and multinational corporations that have interests in the country's oil industry, often at the expense of local development and environmental protection.

Similarly, India and Brazil have faced challenges related to sovereignty in the context of globalisation. In India, the liberalisation of the economy in the 1990s opened up new opportunities for growth but also led to greater economic integration with the global market. While this has spurred industrialisation and economic development, it has also resulted in a loss of control over key sectors such as agriculture and manufacturing, where international trade agreements have sometimes undermined local industries (Steger, 2019). In Brazil, the influx of foreign investment and the expansion of international trade have resulted in economic growth but have also left the country vulnerable to external economic shocks and global financial instability (Held & McGrew, 2019). The challenge for these developing countries is how to maintain sovereignty while engaging with the global economy, balancing the benefits of globalisation with the need to protect local industries and preserve political autonomy.

In sum, globalisation has had a multifaceted impact on sovereignty in developing countries, with both positive and negative outcomes. While it has spurred economic growth and provided access to global markets, it has also led to greater dependency on foreign capital, loss of control over natural resources, and increasing external influence over domestic policy decisions. The ability of developing countries to navigate these challenges and retain sovereignty while participating in the global system remains a central concern.

Globalisation has had profound and multifaceted impacts on developing countries, such as Nigeria, India, and Brazil, significantly altering their sovereignty in various ways. These countries, often characterized by economic vulnerability and political instability, face unique challenges as they integrate into the global system.

In Nigeria, globalisation has exacerbated the nation's economic dependency on oil exports, making it vulnerable to fluctuations in global oil prices. This dependency has undermined Nigeria's sovereignty by limiting the government's ability to pursue diverse and independent economic policies (Adebajo, 2017). Additionally, Nigeria's political autonomy is compromised through external influences, particularly from international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. These institutions often impose conditions on loans, which require the country to adopt specific economic reforms, thus eroding its policy-making capacity. Moreover, globalisation has contributed to the rise of multinational corporations in Nigeria's oil and gas sector, further consolidating foreign control over key economic resources and diminishing the government's regulatory power (Olaniyan, 2020).

India, while benefiting from globalisation through its information technology (IT) and service sectors, faces similar sovereignty challenges. The influx of foreign capital, multinational corporations, and international trade agreements has led to a complex relationship between the Indian government and global economic forces. On one hand, globalisation has spurred economic growth and technological advancement, but on the other hand, it has fostered an environment of economic dependency on foreign investment, particularly in the IT sector, which is increasingly controlled by global players (Chanda, 2019). India's political autonomy is also under threat as its domestic policies are often shaped by the demands of international organisation and trade agreements. For instance, India's participation in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has forced the country to adjust its agricultural policies, affecting local farmers and their livelihood, and raising concerns about its ability to prioritise domestic needs over global obligations (Sahni, 2020).

Brazil, as one of the leading economies in Latin America, has also experienced the duality of globalisation. The country's agricultural exports, particularly soybeans, beef, and coffee, are heavily reliant on global markets, making Brazil vulnerable to external economic forces. This economic dependency diminishes Brazil's sovereignty, as it becomes increasingly tied to the global supply chain and the demands of foreign markets. Furthermore, Brazil's political autonomy is at risk as international trade agreements and multinational corporations influence domestic policy. In the case of the Amazon rainforest, international pressure on Brazil to curb deforestation has led to tensions between economic development and environmental conservation, raising concerns about the country's ability to make independent decisions (Graziano, 2020).

Despite these challenges, globalisation has also provided opportunities for economic growth, technological advancement, and global influence in all three countries. However, the trade-offs between economic growth and the erosion of political sovereignty remain a central theme in the discourse on globalisation in the Global South.

Key Themes

Several recurring themes emerge from the literature on globalisation and sovereignty, particularly in the context of developing countries. These themes include economic dependency, political autonomy, cultural preservation, and governance challenges.

- **Economic Dependency**: A central theme in the literature is the economic dependency of developing countries on global trade and foreign investment. This dependency limits their ability to make independent economic decisions and exposes them to the vulnerabilities of global markets. As shown in the cases of Nigeria, India, and Brazil, the reliance on a narrow range of exports or foreign capital diminishes sovereignty by making these countries susceptible to external economic forces (Adebajo, 2017; Chanda, 2019; Graziano, 2020).

- **Political Autonomy**: Globalisation often challenges the political autonomy of developing countries. Participation in international trade agreements, multilateral organisation, and foreign investment often requires these nations to adopt policies that may not align with their domestic priorities. This loss of autonomy is evident in the influence that international institutions and global corporations have over domestic policies in countries like Nigeria and India (Sahni, 2020; Olaniyan, 2020).

- **Cultural Preservation**: Globalisation also poses threats to cultural sovereignty as global cultural norms, often Western in origin, spread across the globe. Developing countries are increasingly faced with the challenge of preserving their cultural identities while participating in the global cultural exchange (Steger, 2019).

- **Governance Challenges**: Finally, globalisation brings about governance challenges as states struggle to balance national interests with global commitments. For developing countries, these challenges are compounded by the pressure to comply with international standards in areas such as environmental protection, human rights, and trade. This tension between national policy and global expectations is particularly evident in countries like Brazil, where international environmental concerns influence domestic policy regarding the Amazon rainforest (Graziano, 2020).

Presentation of Results

Findings for Developed Countries

The impact of globalisation on sovereignty in developed countries is complex, with nations facing significant challenges related to trade agreements, international policy pressures, and shifts in political power. These dynamics are especially evident in countries such as the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom, where globalisation often constrains national decision-making in various ways.

1. Loss of Control in Trade Agreements

Globalisation has led to the loss of some degree of control over domestic trade policies in developed nations. Multilateral trade agreements like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and membership in the

World Trade Organisation (WTO) have limited the sovereignty of countries like the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom by requiring them to adopt trade policies that align with international standards.

For example, in the United States, NAFTA has resulted in significant changes to trade regulations, especially in areas such as tariffs, labour laws, and agricultural policy. These international agreements have reduced the U.S.'s ability to independently adjust tariffs and protect certain domestic industries from foreign competition (Bergsten, 2017). Table 1 below highlights the trade-related sovereignty challenges faced by the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom under these multilateral agreements.

Country	**Trade Agreement**	**Sovereignty Impact**
United States	NAFTA, WTO	Reduced control over tariffs and labour policies, forced to comply with international trade rules.
Germany	EU, WTO	Limited by EU regulations in setting domestic agricultural and energy policies.
United Kingdom	EU (Brexit), WTO	Lost control over trade laws and border policies, particularly during the Brexit process.

Source: Bergsten, C. F. (2017). *The U.S. and the WTO: Is there a path to multilateral trade policy?* World Trade Review, 16(2), 255-274.

2. International Policy Pressures

Developed countries are also facing increasing international policy pressures that affect their sovereignty, particularly in areas like environmental regulations and defence agreements. These nations are expected to comply with global frameworks such as the Paris Climate Agreement, which imposes stringent rules on reducing carbon emissions. In the United States, the shift between different administrations (e.g., President Trump's withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and President Biden's re-entry) underscores the tension between global commitments and national policy autonomy.

In Germany, the shift towards renewable energy policies, influenced by both EU directives and global environmental agreements, often requires compromising national priorities. Germany's Energiewende (energy transition) has faced opposition from various sectors, reflecting the difficulty of aligning national energy policies with global environmental mandates. Table 2 summarizes the policy-related sovereignty impacts experienced by developed countries in environmental and defence sectors.

Country	**International Agreement**	**Sovereignty Impact**
United States	Paris Climate Agreement	Tension between global environmental commitments and domestic energy policies.
Germany	EU Environmental Policies	Domestic policies constrained by EU environmental targets and renewable energy mandates.
United Kingdom	NATO, Paris Climate Agreement	Domestic defence and environmental policies shaped by international alliances.

Source: Ikenberry, G. J. (2018). *The Liberal International Order and the United States: The Challenge of Globalisation.* Foreign Affairs, 97(1), 28-38.

3. Shifts in Political Power

Globalisation has caused a significant shift in political power, with international institutions and multinational corporations influencing national sovereignty. For instance, global financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank have influenced fiscal and monetary policies in developed nations. During the Greek financial crisis, the IMF's austerity measures curtailed Greece's sovereignty over its economic policies (Molloy, 2017). Similarly, large multinational corporations can exert considerable influence on national policy, especially in the United States, where the political power of tech giants like Apple, Amazon, and Google has shaped domestic regulatory frameworks.

Table 3 illustrates how the influence of international organisation and multinational corporations has reshaped political power in developed countries.

Country	**International Influence**	**Sovereignty Impact**
United States	Multinational Corporations	Influence on tech regulations, antitrust law changes, and labour policies.
Germany	EU, Multinational Corporations	Corporate lobbying within EU, political power shifts due to EU regulations.
United Kingdom	NATO, WTO, Multinational Corporations	Foreign trade deals and corporate influence over domestic policy decisions.

Source: Molloy, J. (2017). *Sovereignty, the European Union, and the Greek financial crisis*. Global Governance Review, 30(2), 155-171.

Findings for Developing Countries

In developing countries, the sovereignty challenges posed by globalisation are often more acute, given the economic dependency on foreign markets, the influence of multinational corporations, and the widespread foreign aid dependency. Countries such as Nigeria, India, and Brazil experience globalisation 's impact through a combination of economic pressures and political compromises.

1. Economic Dependency

Developing countries like Nigeria, India, and Brazil often find themselves heavily dependent on global markets for trade and economic stability. In Nigeria, the oil sector plays a pivotal role in the country's economy, making the nation vulnerable to global oil price fluctuations. This dependence on a single resource significantly limits Nigeria's ability to independently influence its economic trajectory. Table 4 below summarizes the economic dependency challenges faced by Nigeria, India, and Brazil.

Country	Economic Sector	Sovereignty Impact
Nigeria	Oil Exports	Economic dependency on oil, limited diversification of the economy.
India	IT, Agriculture	Reliance on foreign investment and multinational corporations for economic growth.
Brazil	Agriculture, Mining	Dependence on global commodity prices and foreign investments for national development.

Source: Akinola, A. (2017). *Globalisation and sovereignty in Nigeria: Challenges and prospects*. Journal of African Political Science, 22(3), 112-130.

2. Influence of Multinational Corporations

Multinational Corporations (MNCs) play a major role in shaping the economies of developing countries, often dictating terms of resource extraction, labour, and trade agreements. Nigeria's oil industry, dominated by companies like Shell and Chevron, exemplifies how MNCs can influence national policies and extract resources on their terms. Similarly, India's IT sector is shaped by MNCs such as Microsoft and Google, which exert influence over data policies and local regulations. In Brazil, multinational agribusinesses have shaped the national agricultural policies, leading to issues such as environmental degradation and land use disputes.

Table 5 shows the influence of MNCs on national sovereignty in these developing countries.

Country	Key MNCs	Sovereignty Impact
Nigeria	Shell, Chevron	Control over oil resources, influence on environmental and labour regulations.
India	Microsoft, Google	Influence over data protection laws and digital infrastructure.
Brazil	Cargill, Nestlé	Influence over agricultural policies, including land use and environmental laws.

Source: Singh, A. (2018). *Globalisation and sovereignty: India's perspective*. International Relations Journal, 34(2), 98-115.

3. Foreign Aid Dependency

Many developing countries, including Nigeria, India, and Brazil, are also dependent on foreign aid, which can restrict their sovereignty by making them susceptible to external pressures. Nigeria, for example, has received foreign aid from international organisation and governments for health, infrastructure, and education, but this aid often comes with conditions that influence domestic policy decisions. Similarly, India and Brazil face similar challenges, with foreign aid sometimes shaping national priorities and strategies.

Table 6 below shows the impact of foreign aid on the sovereignty of developing countries.

Country	Aid Source	Sovereignty Impact
Nigeria	IMF, World Bank	Conditions attached to aid influence fiscal policies, economic reforms, and development projects.
India	USAID, World Bank	Foreign aid influencing development priorities, especially in education and healthcare.
Brazil	USAID, EU	Foreign aid influencing environmental policies and social welfare initiatives.

Source: Mello, L. F. (2020). *Brazil and the challenge of sovereignty in a globalised economy*. Latin American Politics and Society, 62(4), 74-89.

Comparative Analysis

The comparison of developed and developing countries reveals both similarities and differences in the ways globalisation affects national sovereignty.

Similarities:

- Both developed and developing countries experience economic dependency, though to varying degrees. Developed countries depend on multilateral trade agreements, while developing countries rely on global market trends and commodity exports.
- Both sets of countries are influenced by multinational corporations, which shape economic and regulatory policies, although developing countries face more direct control over resource extraction and labour conditions.
- Political power has shifted towards international institutions in both developed and developing countries, with multilateral organisation and financial bodies exerting considerable influence.

Differences:

- Developed countries like the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom face sovereignty challenges primarily in the form of trade agreements, environmental policies, and defence commitments. These countries have greater bargaining power in international relations compared to developing countries.
- In contrast, developing countries such as Nigeria, India, and Brazil face challenges primarily related to economic dependency, foreign aid, and the influence of multinational corporations on domestic policy.

The findings from the comparative analysis of developed and developing countries indicate that globalisation has a profound impact on national sovereignty, though the degree and nature of this impact vary significantly. While developed countries navigate globalisation through multilateral agreements and international policy frameworks, developing countries grapple with economic dependency, foreign aid influence, and the control exerted by multinational corporations. The balance between global interconnectedness and national autonomy remains a critical challenge in both contexts.

Comparative Analysis

When comparing the impact of globalisation on sovereignty in developing countries like Nigeria, India, and Brazil with developed countries, several contrasts and similarities emerge. One key difference lies in the level of economic dependency. Developed countries, such as the United States, Germany, and Japan, have the economic strength to influence global trade and finance systems, often driving globalisation in their favour. In contrast, developing countries are more vulnerable to global economic shifts and external pressures, as their economies are often reliant on a narrow range of exports or foreign investment. For instance, while the U.S. and Germany have been able to preserve their political autonomy despite globalisation, countries like Nigeria and Brazil face significant constraints due to their dependency on global markets and foreign capital (Cohen & Kennedy, 2019).

Another contrast lies in political autonomy. Developed countries have a greater ability to negotiate favourable terms in international agreements, which helps preserve their sovereignty. Conversely, developing countries often face pressures to conform to international norms and policies set by institutions like the IMF, World Bank, and WTO. These institutions frequently impose economic reforms that limit the policy choices of developing nations. For example, India’s trade and agricultural policies have been significantly shaped by its membership in the WTO, and Brazil’s domestic policies regarding the environment are influenced by international pressure to protect the Amazon (Bello, 2020).

However, there are also similarities in the ways both sets of countries experience the effects of globalisation. Both developed and developing countries are impacted by global economic forces, such as multinational corporations, which shape labour markets, economic policies, and domestic regulations. The rise of transnational corporations has led to an increasing concentration of power in the hands of global elites, which can undermine the sovereignty of both developed and developing countries (Sklair, 2017). Additionally, both groups of countries face challenges related to cultural preservation as globalisation spreads Western values and practices, leading to fears of cultural homogenization.

Conclusion

The impact of globalisation on national sovereignty is a complex and multifaceted issue that affects countries in diverse ways, depending on their level of development, economic structures, and political frameworks. Through a comparative analysis of developed and developing countries, this study highlights the various challenges and opportunities that globalisation presents to national sovereignty.

For developed countries such as the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom, globalisation has primarily impacted sovereignty in the form of trade agreements, international policy pressures, and shifts in political power. These countries face challenges in maintaining control over trade regulations and domestic policies due to their commitment to international agreements such as NAFTA, WTO, and the European Union. The political influence of multinational corporations and global financial institutions further complicates their ability to independently shape national policy.

On the other hand, developing countries like Nigeria, India, and Brazil face even more pressing sovereignty challenges. These nations experience greater economic dependency on global markets and multinational corporations. They also contend with significant foreign aid dependency, which often comes with political conditions that undermine their autonomy. These countries’ economic reliance on commodities such as oil in Nigeria, agriculture in Brazil, and IT in India, places them in a position where their economic sovereignty is highly susceptible to external market fluctuations and global demand shifts.

Despite the differing contexts, there are common threads across both developed and developing countries. Both face pressures from international bodies and multinational entities that shape domestic policies and governance. While developed countries have more leverage in global negotiations, developing countries are often at a disadvantage in this globalised environment.

5.1. Recommendations

Given the findings of this study, several recommendations can be made to help countries better navigate the challenges posed by globalisation while protecting their sovereignty:

1. **Strengthen National Policy Autonomy**

- Developed and developing countries should work towards ensuring that their trade agreements and international commitments do not undermine their domestic policy decisions. For instance, countries like the United States and Germany can negotiate trade agreements that allow for greater flexibility in managing national interests, especially in sectors like agriculture, defence, and environmental protection.

- Developing countries, such as Nigeria, can explore more diversified economic models that reduce dependency on a single resource (e.g., oil), which would help mitigate the risks of global market fluctuations.

2. **Enhance Regional Cooperation**

- Both developed and developing countries can benefit from regional cooperation to bolster sovereignty. Regional blocs, such as the European Union (EU) for developed countries or the African Union (AU) for developing countries, can offer more control over trade, governance, and security while promoting economic integration.
- For instance, Nigeria and other African nations could strengthen the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to enhance intra-African trade, reduce reliance on external powers, and foster economic resilience.

3. **Regulate the Influence of Multinational Corporations**

- Governments should adopt stronger regulations to curtail the excessive influence of multinational corporations on national policies, particularly in sectors like oil, agriculture, and technology. Nigeria should enhance environmental and labour laws to ensure that the interests of multinational oil companies do not outweigh the national interest.
- India and Brazil should implement stricter policies regarding multinational corporations' tax practices, labour conditions, and environmental impacts to prevent exploitation.

4. **Diversify Economic Structures in Developing Countries**

- Developing countries should prioritise economic diversification to reduce reliance on a single sector, such as Nigeria's oil dependence. India and Brazil could further invest in the IT and renewable energy sectors, respectively, to foster sustainable economic growth.
- By developing non-traditional industries, these countries can better withstand global economic fluctuations and ensure greater sovereignty over their economic destinies.

5. **Increase Domestic Capabilities for Policy Negotiations**

- Both developed and developing nations should invest in strengthening their policy negotiation capabilities at the international level. This includes building robust diplomatic structures that can advocate for national interests while balancing global commitments. For example, Brazil and India should bolster their positions in international forums such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and United Nations (UN) to ensure that global trade rules and environmental regulations are more equitable and aligned with their national priorities.

6. **Promote Cultural Sovereignty**

- Both developed and developing nations should also pay attention to cultural sovereignty as part of the broader discussion of national sovereignty. globalisation has led to cultural homogenization, often driven by dominant media and entertainment industries from developed countries. Developing countries like Nigeria should promote the preservation of local cultures and traditions, even as they engage with global markets.
- Educational and media initiatives that promote local culture, language, and heritage can help mitigate the cultural impact of globalisation and preserve national identities.

7. **Foster Domestic Innovation and Technological Advancement**

- Countries, especially in the developing world, should invest in innovation and technological advancement as a means of increasing sovereignty. By building domestic capacities in key sectors such as technology, energy, and manufacturing, nations can reduce their reliance on foreign technologies and multinational corporations.
- Governments should encourage research and development (R&D) in areas critical to national growth, such as renewable energy in Brazil or sustainable agriculture in India, to become more self-sufficient in addressing local needs.

Globalisation is a powerful force that influences the sovereignty of nations, but it is not an immutable process. Through careful policy planning, regional cooperation, and economic diversification, both developed and developing countries can better manage the challenges of globalisation. While the impacts of globalisation on sovereignty will continue to evolve, these recommendations can provide a roadmap for countries to enhance their autonomy and control over their national destinies in an increasingly interconnected world.

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