

Module 4

Economics

Always our goal has been the progress of humanity for the better, which is away from the interests of an individual, group or geographical area and in spite of the division of cultural groups, ethnic racism, religious differences, fanaticism, geographical problems, climatic problems, wars, struggles and poverty. Our future and the future of the next generations are unknown, so we realized that the decisions made by us and by others are important because they affect the lives of both at the same time.

Thus, the goal has always been to find harmony between the people that can guarantee the equality between the developing states, in order to advance our efforts and capacity to build a better future for all and hold a solid partnership, with no losers. This is being done in the complex context of an increasing interdependence among people and growing concerns of common interest, while living in separate countries where cultures, races, and religious beliefs vary.

This has been the most important aspect that world civics sheds light on. This is what economists call the 'global movement', a term used to denote all systems designed to organize and centralize human societies and unity on a global scale. The free market economy alone is not capable of meeting human needs. Without organization and without considering the external social and environmental factors, free-market capitalism turns into a machine that can not be controlled. It produces more and more wealth concentrated in the hands of a few. Global governance is working to increase the interdependence of people and strengthen cooperation and international solidarity, which will reduce this concentration, this inequality in the distribution of wealth between countries, and focus on human rights rather than individual property rights.

On the other hand, increasing the global flow of goods, services, capital, and people between different countries has created a new degree of interdependence between the economies of the world. According to the Mackenzie Institute international report the flows of goods, services, money, and people contribute about 15-25 percent of the global growth each year and more than the gross domestic product (about 40 percent) for countries that have a high degree of interdependence when compared to other countries. Interdependence and unity have enhanced growth and productivity. It is no longer a secret that entities such as the European Union and its like bind the different political and economic components into unique partnerships. The members reflected on the social welfare of member states and contributed to economic growth and the creation of a kind of solidarity and interdependence between the peoples of those countries.

In the same context, the emergence of global institutions such as the United Nations, for example, aims to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, and humanitarian nature. It has contributed to the strengthening of respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms for all, and equality between peoples. The liberalization of trade between the countries institutions such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) could be viewed as a forum for governments to negotiate trade agreements and the place for member states to settle trade disputes and the problems they face with each other based on the rules and the foundations of global trade. The WTO also helps to liberalize trade and lift customs barriers, thereby reducing costs between member states. Conversely, sometimes it keeps trade barriers to protect consumers or prevent monopolies, which reflect on the economic growth of these countries and their interdependence, which is for the benefit of their people.

The World Bank the International Monetary Fund and many other global institutions, which aim to increase coherence and stability in the affiliated countries and maximize the benefit to the people of those countries, are a form of global governance, which can be said to be the global economic aspect of civic education. However, this kind of global governance is weak in many areas especially regarding the proportion of the urgent needs of the current global policies, the lack of a judicial authority to take the necessary measures to cover the deficit in the current global systems, and the inability of the legal institutions to enact procedures. Moreover, politicians interfere in many of the activities of these institutions in order to apply specific policies to benefit only their interests.

Some of the critics of these institutions see global governance as a new invention of liberal globalization to increase the influence and predominance of developed countries and widen the gap between them and the developing countries or subordinate the developing countries. Others see that the need for international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization is not that big, and the need to resolve global problems does not require the establishment of additional strong global institutions, but the consensus on rules, provisions, and international norms.

Ultimately, we are now, more than ever, in need of global civic education and the principles emanating from it, which are based on the foundations of justice and equality and in the absence of economic injustice, social and sectarian religious conflicts, territorial disputes, and fighting for control of basic resources such as water or natural resources of which the victims are civilians.