

# POLITICS ONLINE READINGS FOR GLOBAL SHIFT 7<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

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## PART THREE: WINNING AND LOSING IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

### 7. The Uneasy Relationship Between Transnational Corporations and States: Dynamics of Conflict and Collaboration

Berger, S. (2006) *How We Compete: What Companies Around the World are Doing to Make it in Today's Global Economy*. New York: Currency Doubleday. [Examines the strategies states and corporations are employing in response to the globalization of production.]

Hertz, N. (2001) *The Silent Takeover: Global Capitalism and the Death of Democracy*. London: Arrow Books. [Argues that power is shifting inexorably from states to private corporations. However, is the process silent and is it really a takeover?]

Jensen, N.M. (2006) *Nation-States and the Multinational Corporation: A Political Economy of Foreign Direct Investment*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. [Asks what makes a state attractive to foreign investors with some surprising results.]

Moosa, I.A. (2002) *Foreign Direct Investment: Theory, evidence and practice*. Basingstoke: Palgrave. [Covers the rationale for FDI and the factors conditioning its implementation. Also assesses the impact of FDI on economic development and the growth of multinational corporations.]

Murphy, R. (2013) *Over Here and Undertaxed: Multinationals, Tax Avoidance and You*. Kindle e-book. [Examines the corporate tax avoidance scandals involving Amazon, Starbucks and Google, and explains why they are possible and how governments should respond.]

Stopford, J. and Strange, S. (1991) *Rival States, Rival Firms: Competition for World Market Shares*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [Using research from Brazil, Kenya and Malaysia this book outlines an analytical matrix for understanding the mutual interdependence of states and TNCs.]

*The Economist* (2012) Special Report: State Capitalism. 21 January. [Contrasts the malaise seemingly engulfing Western liberal capitalist models with the emergence of a vibrant state capitalism in emerging markets.]

*The Economist* (2014) Special Report: Companies and the State. 22 January. [Using a variety of contemporary case studies argues that state/TNC relationships are becoming more antagonistic.]

## 8. 'Capturing Value' Within Global Production Networks

Cohen, S.D. (2007) *Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment: Avoiding Simplicity, Embracing Diversity*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [Touches upon many themes relevant to Global Shift, but Parts III and IV specifically explore the impact of transnational corporations on issues of labour, investment, local firms and dependency.]

Gill, S. and Law, D. (1988) *The Global Political Economy: Perspectives, Problems and Policies*. Baltimore, MA: Johns Hopkins University Press. [A general text on global political economy with some excellent critical chapters on the power of capital, the role of national economies in global production, and the dangers of states relying on external capital.]

Kafouros, M.I. (2008) *Industrial Innovation and Firm Performance: The Impact of Scientific Knowledge on Multinational Corporations*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar. [Thought-provoking account of the conditions under which transnational corporations benefit from innovation and knowledge and how multinationals build on external ideas and knowledge from local firms.]

Rugraff, E. and Hansen, M.W. (eds) (2011) *Multinational Corporations and Local Firms in Emerging Economies*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. [Using cases studies from emerging economies, demonstrates the mutually beneficial relationships between transnational corporations and local firms and the policies used to support them.]

## 9. 'Destroying Value'? Environmental Impacts of Global Production Networks

Alexander, C. and Reno, J. (eds) (2012) *Economies of Recycling: Global Transformations of Materials, Values and Social Relations*. New York: Zed Books. [A groundbreaking analysis of global material chains and how recycling economies are challenging established understandings of north–south relationships.]

Berners-Lee, M. (2010) *How Bad Are Bananas? The Carbon Footprint of Everything*. London: Profile Books. [Stimulating and often surprising analysis of the carbon footprint of everyday items. Defies existing thinking on sustainable living.]

Crang, M., Hughes, A., Gregson, N., Norris, L. and Ahmed, F. (2013) Rethinking governance and value in commodity chains through global recycling networks. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 38: 12–24. [Using the examples of clothing and merchant ships this article illustrates how discarded goods flow from north to south to fuel new production networks in the latter.]

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ([www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch)). [Homepage of the leading international body for assessing climate change. Its Fifth Assessment Report contains the clearest evidence yet of the extent of human-induced climate change and its potential repercussions.]

Minter, A. (2013) *Junkyard Planet: Travels in the Billion Dollar Trash Trade*. London: Bloomsbury Books. [Journeys through the global recycling industry to expose the export of US recyclables and those profiting from it in the global south.]

*The Economist* (2009) Special Report: Waste. 28 February. [Report summarizing the origins of waste, methods to deal with it and the burgeoning recycling industry.]

## 10. Winning and Losing: Where You Live Really Matters

Castles, S., de Haas, H. and Miller, M.J. (2013) *The Age of Migration: International Population Movements in the Modern World*, 5th edn. [Detailed discussion of the theories explaining migration, its history and effects on societies. Interesting overview of different regions and modern issues surrounding migration and how to control it.]

ILO (annual) *Global Employment Trends*. Geneva: ILO. [Annual report of the International Labour Organization detailing developments in global and regional employment.]

OECD (2014) International migration ([www.oecd.org/migration](http://www.oecd.org/migration)). [OECD portal on international migration issues replete with statistical databases, reports on migration trends, international migration policies, and research detailing the linkages between migration and other policy issues such as health, employment and education.]

Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (2014) *Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2013* (<http://www.ophi.org.uk/multidimensional-poverty-index/mpi-2013/>). [Index measuring different dimensions of poverty in over 100 developing countries.]

Sassen, S.J. (2012) *Cities in a World Economy*, 4th edn. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. [For the first time in human history, most people live in cities. This comprehensive volume introduces students to the nature of the urban environment, the role of cities in global production networks, and the problems of urbanization.]

Selwyn, B. (2014) *The Global Development Crisis*. Cambridge: Polity. [Using the ideas of political economists from the last two centuries, this book challenges the orthodox assumption that the solution to the problems covered in this chapter is for developing countries to integrate into the global capitalist system.]

UN (2014) UN Millennium Development Goals Indicators (<http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx>). [Official portal for statistics measuring progress against the Millennium Development Goals agreed in 2000.]

## 11. Making the World a Better Place

Callinicos, A. (2003) *An Anti-Capitalist Manifesto*. Cambridge: Polity. [Proceeding from the premise that global capitalism is doomed to collapse, this book examines a number of possible alternatives.]

Hale, T., Held, D. and Young, K. (2013) *Gridlock: Why Global Cooperation Is Failing When We Need It Most*. Cambridge: Polity. [Argues that the main international institutions created after 1945 and the nature of their decision-making structures are now key impediments to humankind's ability to cooperate to solve global problems.]

OECD (2014) Corporate governance (<http://www.oecd.org/corporate/>). [Portal to the research being undertaken and the standards promulgated by the world's leading international organization working in the field of corporate governance.]

Sandel, M. (2012) *What Money Can't Buy: The Moral Limits of Markets*. London: Penguin. [Argues that markets have a moral impact on the goods traded in them and establishes principles to protect the civic and public goods that markets do not supply.]

Weiss, T. (2013) *Global Governance: Why What Wither?* Cambridge: Polity. [Explores the emergence and meaning of global governance and the growing disjunction between the scale of global threats and the ability of existing mechanisms of global governance to manage them.]

Weiss, T. and Wilkinson, R. (eds) (2013) *International Organization and Global Governance*. Abingdon: Routledge. [Magisterial collection of essays covering the role of states, international organizations and non-governmental organizations in governing an array of contemporary subjects.]