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# The Liberal World Order is Resilient Enough to Sustain Itself Against De-globalization

Outline

## 1. Introduction

Thesis Statement: Protectionism, nationalism and regionalism are basic aspects of de-globalization which pose potential risks for liberal world order. However, the liberal world order is resilient to absorb the shocks of de-globalization.

## 2. A brief overview of liberal world order

- Freedom of speech, open markets, multilateralism and inter-communication

## 3. How liberal world order is resilient enough to sustain itself against de-globalization?

I. Liberal world order possess the adaptation to new patterns

Case in point: Rise of China and shifting trade patterns

II. Multilateralism as a key attribute of liberal world order

References: (a) Cooperation on Climate Change  
(b) Global response against terrorism

III. It advocates economic interdependence  
Case in point: Free Trade Agreements in European Union

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IV. It believes in democratic peace and culture.

Reference: Democratic Survey (2024)

V. Increase in scope of capitalism since second world war.

Case study: United States of America as biggest world economy.

VI. Liberal world order advocates soft power.

4. What are the challenges ~~facing~~ <sup>being faced</sup> by liberal world order due to de-globalization?

I. Rise in nationalism and protectionism.

Reference: Trump's "America First" Policy

II. Decline in trust in international financial institutions.

Case study: World Trade Organisation  
Reference: BREXIT (2020)

III. Shift in global power dynamics.

Case study: Rise of China

IV. Increasing economic inequality.

Reference: (a) 2008 Financial Crisis

(b) Super cycle after Ukraine war

V. Backsliding of democratic norms.

Books: How Democracies Die

VI. Ban on refugees and remittances.

Case study: US incident of Mexican border

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5. What are the measures to address the issues of de-globalization for liberal world order?

sustainability of

I. Ensuring reforms in international institutions

Book: Why Nations Fail

II. Fostering inclusive trade policies  
Case study: China's Trade Policy

III. Guaranteeing global cooperation on major issues like climate change

Book: 21 Lessons for 21st Century

IV. Ascertaining support for multilateralism

Reference: Ten lessons for Post-Pandemic World

V. Emphasize on human rights and democracy

Case in point: UNHRC (2024) report

6. Conclusion

De-globalization badly hurts the patterns of liberal world order. Nevertheless, liberal world order can sustain itself against the seismic waves of de-globalization.

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The liberal world order is facing seismic shifts due to de-globalization. Emmanuel Macron, the French President, has rightly said that "The liberal world order is not a static entity, it must adapt to changing global circumstances." Similarly, the liberal world order can absorb the potential threats being posed by de-globalization. It has possessing attribute of adaptation to changing patterns of global engagement. Multilateralism is still exists across the globe. Moreover, Economic interdependence is also increasing which manifests the sustainability of the liberal world order. Democratic culture, coupled with capitalism are the emerging key drivers of the current world order. However, de-globalization brings multiple challenges to the western-led world order. Rising protectionism along with decline in trust in global institutions is they major stumbling blocks for liberal world order. Shift in global power

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dynamics is equally important in this context. Furthermore, increasing economic inequalities, backlash to democracy and ban on refugees are some of the key challenges for current world order. Some measures including: ensuring reforms in international institutions, guaranteeing economic cooperation and reinforcing multilateralism are necessary to address the challenges of de-coupling of global inter-connectedness. Protectionism, regionalism and nationalism are the key characteristics of de-globalization which pose severe risks to liberal world order. However, the liberal world order is resilient to sustain itself against such risks.

Liberal world order refers to the global political and economic system that has been in place since the end of Second World War. The order advocates democracy, openness of economy and human rights. United States of America, coupled with European countries is

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the key supporter of liberal world order. For instance, freedom, free trade, multilateralism, inter-communication and democratic ethos are the fundamentals of liberalism. Liberal order is one of the most stable, but flexible systems across the globe. Surprisingly, the order is being followed by host of the states in international arena. Thus, liberal world order is more conducive order in the globe.

Liberal world order is resilient enough to sustain itself against de-globalization as it possesses adaptation to changing patterns. De-globalization, a process to dilute the inter-connectedness of economic and political thoughts, reinforces illiberal ideas like protectionism, nationalism and regionalism. Nevertheless, the liberal order is flexible and it can absorb the shocks of decoupling of global economies and politics. De-globalization threatens liberal world order since many decades. However, the order

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has been successful in holding the seismic waves of de-globalization. Rise of China and shift in trade patterns is one of the key examples of resilient nature of liberal world order. Hence, the liberal world can sustain the shocks of de-globalization.

In the same vein, multilateralism is the main attribute of liberal world order which shows its flexibility for enduring the losses, resulting from de-globalization. Multilateralism supports openness of economic and political ideas whereas de-globalization advocates limitation of such ideas. Moreover, multilateralism fosters cooperation on global issues which discourages separatism and disintegration. Global cooperation against changing climate patterns under the window of Paris Agreement is the key element of multilateralism across the globe. Similarly, joint action of states against global terrorism is another real example in this context.

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Hence, it is true to contend that liberal world order can easily sustain itself against momentum of deglobalization.

In the same manner, economic interdependence is another characteristic of liberal world order which manifests its resilience against de-globalization. It is a well-known fact that disintegration of global economy, politics and communication derails the essence of liberal world order. Despite its severe effects, the current global order has been successful in enduring the ups and downs, resulting from de-coupling of global politics and economy. For instance, European Union has signed free trade agreements to strengthen the integration of economies. As a result, the union has avoided the seismic waves of de-globalization. To be all and end-all, liberal world order can absorb the shocks of de-coupling of global inter-connectedness.



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In addition to above, liberal world order can sustain itself against de-globalization as it believes in democratic peace and culture. The present world order supports peace, justice, human rights, rule of law and freedom of ideas. On the other hand, de-globalization reinforces regionalism, protectionism and conservative nationalism. Therefore, the liberal world orders characteristics supersede the features of de-globalization. According to recently published democratic survey (cau), "More than 70 percent countries across the global are following liberal democracy". It shows that most of the states believe that liberal order is appropriate option among others. Ergo, the liberal world order is sustainable enough to endure the impacts of de-globalization.

In the same way, increasing scope of capitalism also manifests liberal world orders resilient nature against de-globalization.

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Capitalism denounces de-coupling of global economies by supporting openness of economies, Free trade agreements, preferential trade agreements and centralized banking system are the key features of capitalism. Moreover, all <sup>these</sup> <sup>such</sup> features are capable to endure the shocks of regionalism and protectionism. For instance, United States of America is the biggest economy of world because of her strong advocacy for the liberal world order. The country is easily evading the consequences of disintegration of global economies. Hence, it can safely be said that liberal world order is resilient enough to volatile the off-shoots of de-globalization.

On the same pattern, use of soft power tools by liberal world order also shows its elastic nature against tectonic shifts of de-globalization. No doubt, the current world order supports

diplomacy, table talks and consensus has resolving global problems. Furthermore, it condemns protectionism, conservative nationalism and selfishness. For example, democratically enriched nations use soft tools like diplomacy and sports for building peaceful societies. All and above, liberal world can endure the impacts of de-globalization.

There are plethora of challenges facing by liberal world order due to de-globalization. Rise in nationalism and protectionism is first and foremost challenge to the liberal global order. Nationalism supports de-coupling of economic and political systems across the globe. It demands self-centered approach in every activity of by governments. Similarly, protectionism hinders the openness of economy and political ideas. The case study of Trump's "America First" policy is the biggest backlash to the liberal world order. It is because it

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emphasized on "America for Americans".  
Resultantly, the policy caused  
disintegration across the globe.  
Thus, rise of nationalism and protectionism  
is the key feature of de-globaliza-  
tion challenging liberal world  
order.

Secondly, declining trust in  
international liberal institutions is  
also a challenge for liberal  
world order. The entire edifice  
of the liberal world order is  
based upon international institutions  
like International Monetary Fund and  
World Bank. However, the imperialist  
role of these institutions has  
resulted in declining <sup>public</sup> trust from the  
international ~~institutions~~ arena. Resultantly, the  
liberal world order is facing  
issue of trust deficit. For instance,  
declining in trust from World  
Trade Organization is a  
real example in this regard.  
Similarly, Britain's exit from  
European Union (BREXIT) in 2020  
also indicates the distortion  
in liberal world order. Hence, de.

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coupling of economy, politics and culture is detrimental for liberal world order.

Thirdly, shift in global power dynamics also threatens the liberal world order. The order

is based on unilateral power of America. However, the rise

of global south is changing the patterns of power from unilateralism to multilateralism. Moreover,

declining democratic norms across the globe and within the democratic states is also a backlash to existing world order.

For instance, economic rise of China, a neo-socialist economy, details the essence of liberal world order

in the comity of nations. Thus, it can safely be argued that de-globalization poses severe challenges to liberal world order.

Fourthly, increasing economic inequality across the world economies is one of the key hurdles for liberal world order, resulting

from de-globalization, protectionism and trade sanctions are the causes of economic instability. It is because, such actions limit the diversification of trade. De-coupling of economy also leads to us vs them thinking across the globe. For example, 2008 financial crisis in United States of America caused disorder in liberal economies. Similarly, global super cycle and Ukraine war especially in liberal economies has severely affected the trust of nations in liberal world order. Ergo, de-globalization disrupts the foundations of liberal world order.

Fifthly, backsliding of democratic norms due to nationalist policies and economic sanctions also shows the malign of liberal world order due to de-globalization. Trade sanctions result into economic meltdown which is against the idea of social justice. Similarly, de-globalization augments poverty which, in turn, violates the peace in society. As a result,

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liberal world order is facing issues like disorder and instability. Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt wrote in their books: 'How Democracies Die' that "liberal world order is declining due to violation of democratic values across the democratic states." Hence, it is true to contend that de-globalization does not bode well for the liberal world order.

Last but not least, ban on refugees and remittances is another challenge to liberal world order. The order <sup>supports</sup> believes in peace and security even during the war times providing shelter to the refugees and allowing remittances are the key principles supported by the liberal school of thought. However, restriction on flow of war victims across the borders is against the principles of existing world order. For instance, US forces restricted the flow of refugees across Mexican border in 2021. Most of

the people got injured due to firing from American border forces. The event manifests the vivid violation of principles of liberal world order. Hence, de-globalization is challenging the liberal world order.

Some judicious measures are necessary to address the challenges to liberal world order owing to de-globalization and ensuring reforms in international institutions is the key remedy in this context. Guaranteeing impartiality and inclusivity in global institutions for strengthening the liberal world order is necessary. Responsible role of economic institutions like International Monetary Fund and World Bank can re-build the public trust in the prevailing world order. Regulation of exploitative role of international financial and political institutions is also necessary for smooth functioning of liberal world order. Daren Acemoglu and Robertson write in the books: 'Why nations fail' that "inclusivity



in economic and political institutions is pre-requisite for working of liberal institutions. Therefore, reforms in global institutions is essential to combat the issue of de-globalization for sustenance of liberal world order.

Additionally, fostering inclusive trade policies across the globe is also a key measure to address the menace of de-globalization for ensuring sustainability in liberal world order. Inequality can be eliminated through trade policies based upon mutual benefits. Similarly, control of big corporations on resources of weak economies can also be reduced through impartial economic and trade deals. The case study of Chinese trade policy is in focus in this context as it supports the diversification of economy coupled with mutual cooperation. Thus, fostering impartial trade policies is indispensable for resilience of the liberal world order.

In the same manner, cooperation on global issues like climate change is quintessential for resilience of liberal world order. Changing climate patterns pose severe threats to liberal world order. Moreover, de-globalization impedes the collective global response against the climate change. Furthermore, climate change disrupts the principles of present world order. Yuval Noah Harari says in his book: '21 Lessons for 21st Century' that "global problems should be resolved through global solutions." Thus, it is true to argue that global cooperation is indispensable for sustenance of liberal world order.

On the same pattern, fostering multilateralism is also one of the key solutions to address the issue of de-globalization for resilient liberal world order. Multilateralism is based on consultation, inclusion and solidarity. Therefore, protectionism,

nationalism and regionalism can be eliminated through consensus and collectivism. Similarly, liberal world order can also be strengthened via multilateralism. Fareed Zakaria said in his book "Ten Lessons for the post-pandemic world" that "mutualism and collectivism are key factors for controlling disorder in the world order. Verily, multilateralism is need of the hour for ensuring resilience in liberal world order,

Furthermore, emphasize human rights and democracy is also necessary for resilience of liberal world order. No doubt, de-globalization violates right to freedom of trade, right to economic equality and right to political freedom. However, ensuring human rights can strengthen the spirit of liberal world order. Similarly, flourishing of democratic ethos is equally important in this context. According to recently published report of United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC),

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" liberal world order can not be replaced by any other order in the near future due to its resilient nature based upon democratic ethos." Hence, liberal world order can be supported through guaranteeing human rights and democratic values.

To conclude, de-globalization maligns the liberal world order by supporting economic sanctions, illiberal trade policies and ban on freedom of movement across the borders. Nevertheless, the liberal global order is strong enough to cope the challenges, resulting from de-coupling of global connectivity. Multilateralism, economic interdependence, democracy and others are the key features of the order, making it resilient against negative off-shots of disintegration of economy, politics and culture across global arena. Inclusivity in international institutions, equal trade policies and others are key measures to address challenges of the current world order.