

Globalization Timeline: 1940-2005

1940	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FCC rules limit media ownership concentration in radio and TV
1944	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bretton Woods Agreements create World Bank and Monetary Fund General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) established to negotiate rules for trade in goods
1945	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• United Nations Charter signed• Dismantling of colonial empires creates independent states in Asia and Africa and neocolonial economic relationships
1947	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cold War begins pitting capitalism against communism
1948	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal Declaration of Human Rights drafted• World Council of Churches founded
1958	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UN Conference on the Law of the Sea discusses resource exploitation of outer continental shelf
1971	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Computer chip invented
1970s	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Global Assembly lines (enabled by dramatically expanded communications due to computers), largely using women's labor, increasingly dominate patterns of production of clothing and manufactured goods• Surplus petrodollars fuel wise and unwise spending/borrowing spree in developing countries
1975	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advances in computers, fiber optics, satellites, and miniaturized electronics radically alter production and distribution of goods and services and patterns of global investment

1980	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reagan and Thatcher usher in fundamentalist free market government and free market global economic strategies • President Reagan breaks the air controllers strike, opening an era of diminishing power of unions
1982	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mexico tells creditors it is unable to pay its debts and the Third World Debt Crisis begins all around the globe as nations are unable to pay escalating debts incurred during the 1970s
1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the UN Third World Conference on Women, women activists from developing countries detail how neoliberal economic policies exploit and hurt women
1986	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Bank and International Monetary Fund initiate structural adjustment policies in developing countries that promote trade liberalization
1987	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian groups organize opposition to proposed free trade agreement • Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Canada and U.S. • D.C. District Court eliminates the “fairness doctrine” which outlined the responsibilities of radio and TV owners as public trustees
1988	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Trade Agreement (FTA) signed between the U.S. and Canada
1989	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall of the Berlin Wall ends Cold War leaving capitalism as single dominant economic system; Transnational Corporations (TNCs) enter former Soviet bloc countries in a push toward privatization
1990s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Series of United Nations World Conferences dramatically expand the voice of non-governmental organizations in global political, economic, and environmental debates and equality for women • Regional and Bilateral Trade Agreements multiply around the world

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Globalization Timeline (Continued)

1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worldwide Web created, enabling instant communications around the globe
1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between U.S., Canada, and Mexico signed with side agreements on labor and the environment, and in the face of intense resistance from labor, women, environmental, and church groups in all three countries Maastricht Treaty creates the European Union solidifying economic and political ties between, and expanding number of, European nations west and east
1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) proposal launched by the U.S. to seek a free trade agreement for all of North, Central, and South America except Cuba
1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Trade Organization GATT adds services, investment and intellectual property rights, and government procurement to trade concerns UN Fourth World Conference on Women adopts the Beijing Platform for Action outlining governments' responsibilities toward women in the economic, political, communications, and other spheres
1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telecommunications Act engenders further deregulation of media policy
1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemispheric Social Alliance formed by citizen groups throughout the hemisphere concerned about the FTAA \$1.5 trillion per day of foreign exchange is traded worldwide Asian financial crisis triggers a global financial crisis when nervous investors rush to withdraw funds from Asian markets; financial speculation becomes a major concern
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50,000 activists in Seattle protest WTO policies in the first of an ongoing series of activist protests of WTO policies at WTO meetings U.S. TNCs use illegal accounting techniques to prop up failing profits; Enron, WorldCom, and others collapse in scandal



<p>2000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Churches, NGOs, activists mobilize around the world on the 50th anniversary of the World Bank and IMF to call for a “Jubilee” cancellation of Third World debts • Wealthy countries agree to partial debt relief with terms of more privatization and free trade • World leaders gather for UN Millennium Summit, committing to the eradication of extreme poverty and other global social goals by 2015
<p>2001</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WTO Doha Declaration affirms the right of governments to violate trade rules in order to protect the public health of its citizens, while continuing to press for trade liberalization • World Conference Against Racism; some Third World nations and activists link colonialism, poverty, racism, and globalization
<p>2002</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argentina’s economic collapse and default on debts; people rebel against economic austerity policies
<p>2003</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World governments and Globalization activists force shut down of WTO deliberation in Mexico
<p>2005</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs and activists around the world join a “Global Call Against Poverty” to urge governments to make trade fair, cancel debts, and address the roots of poverty • Central American Free Trade Agreement passed by U.S. Congress expanding the U.S. free trade zone to countries in Central America but not Cuba