

**RESOURCE LIBRARY**  
ACTIVITY : 1 HR

## The Debate Over Globalization

Students research, analyze, and debate the pros and cons of globalization.

### GRADES

6 - 12+

### SUBJECTS

*Geography, Human Geography, Social Studies, Economics*

### CONTENTS

1 PDF, 4 Links, 1 Video

## OVERVIEW

Students research, analyze, and debate the pros and cons of globalization.

For the complete activity with media resources, visit:

<http://www.nationalgeographic.org/activity/the-debate-over-globalization/>

## Program

**ILLICIT**  
THE DARK TRADE

## DIRECTIONS

### 1. Introduce globalization.

Explain to students that globalization, in its simplest form, means a more connected world. Globalization is the movement and integration of goods and people among different countries. Globalization is driven by international trade and aided by information technology.

Make sure students understand that there are pros and cons to globalization, all of which have economic, social, political, and cultural impacts. Ask them to brainstorm what some pros and cons may be, and write them on the board.

## **2. Distribute the worksheet and have students research globalization.**

Distribute copies of the worksheet Decision Matrix to each student. Have students use the provided websites to conduct their own research and to learn more about the issues in the debate over globalization. They can also find resources at the school library or a local library. Ask students to record the information they find on the worksheet.

## **3. Have students decide what they think about globalization.**

Based on their research, tell students to select the arguments that they believe are most valid.

## **4. Have students write about globalization.**

Have students write a bulleted list of information that supports the views they selected. Tell students they can choose one aspect of globalization, such as economic costs and benefits, or they can look at the issue as a whole.

## **5. Have students debate globalization.**

Divide the class into two groups: students who focused on pros and students who focused on cons. Have the two groups debate the issue. Make sure students back up any statements with factual information from reliable resources.

# Modification

If time allows, have groups swap positions after the debate. Having students debate both sides of an issue builds their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

# Extending the Learning

If possible, have students watch the National Geographic film *Illicit: The Dark Trade*. An excerpt of the film is provided in this activity. Go to the [PBS](#) website to find out where you can get the full DVD.

# OBJECTIVES

# Subjects & Disciplines

## Geography

- Human Geography

## Social Studies

- Economics

# Learning Objectives

Students will:

- define
- conduct research about globalization
- identify pros and cons of globalization
- choose and support one side of the debate

# Teaching Approach

- Learning-for-use

# Teaching Methods

- Information organization
- Research
- Writing

# Skills Summary

This activity targets the following skills:

- Critical Thinking Skills
  - Analyzing
  - Understanding
- Geographic Skills
  - Acquiring Geographic Information

- Analyzing Geographic Information

# National Standards, Principles, and Practices

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY STANDARDS

- Standard 11:

The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface

## VOLUNTARY NATIONAL CONTENT STANDARDS IN ECONOMICS

- Standard 3: Allocation of Goods and Services:

Different methods can be used to allocate goods and services. People acting individually or collectively through government, must choose which methods to use to allocate different kinds of goods and services.

### Preparation

### What You'll Need

#### MATERIALS YOU PROVIDE

- Paper
- Pencils
- Pens

#### REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY

- Internet Access: Required
- Tech Setup: 1 computer per learner, Speakers

#### PHYSICAL SPACE

- Computer lab

#### GROUPING

- Large-group instruction

# BACKGROUND & VOCABULARY

## Background Information

Globalization is the movement and integration of goods and people among different countries. There are advantages and disadvantages to globalization, all of which have economic, social, political, and cultural impacts.

## Prior Knowledge

## Recommended Prior Activities

- None

## Vocabulary

Term	Part of Speech	Definition
globalization	noun	connection of different parts of the world resulting in the expansion of international cultural, economic, and political activities.

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### For Further Exploration

#### Websites

- [The World Bank: YouThink–Globalization](#)

## FUNDER





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