

AQA Geography A-level

Global Systems and Global Governance

Glossary of Definitions



Globalisation Glossary - AQA Geography A-Level

Acquisition - A transaction where a TNC buys another company in order to expand (usually a smaller company).

Asylum Seeker - People who have left their country and are seeking asylum in another, waiting to be granted residency and to become a refugee.

China's Open Door Policy - 1978 - China allows foreign industry and TNCs in to promote a modern and thriving China.

Containerisation - A logistical system of transporting large amounts of goods in steel containers (each carrying 25000kg of goods).

Core Region - Wealthier, industrially developed countries that benefit and control global markets, making periphery regions depend on them.

Cultural Diffusion - The spread of cultural beliefs and social activities into different cultures.

Cultural Erosion - The reduction of a culture due to globalisation.

Cumulative Causation - Like a multiplier effect, "Success breeds Success". As the core regions increase in prosperity the periphery regions will too due to their links with the core.

Deindustrialisation - A reduction in industrial capacity, leading to social and economic change within a region

Diaspora – 'To scatter about' - People displaced from their homeland, voluntarily or forced.

Downward Transition Zones - A country or city with predicted economic decline, industrial reduction or switched off from globalisation (e.g. Scotland, Turkey, Brazil).

Economic Migration - Movement of migrants to improve financial income or standard of living.

Economies of Scale - The concept of increasing profits by producing a larger amount of products, as overall the average price to manufacture each product is lowered.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) - An investment by one country or business with an interest in another country.

Global Common - An area that does not belong to one country, but instead belongs to everyone, including: the atmosphere, international waters, outer space, and Antarctica.

Global Governance - The process of global management, where multiple nations act together in matters that affect the entire world.

Global Hubs - Cores that demonstrate connections to the world (through trade, ideas, migration, etc). TNCs and foreign direct investors will show an interest to base here.



Globalisation - The growing interdependence of countries through cross-border transactions (capital, technology, migration, knowledge, culture, etc).

Glocalisation - The adaptation of a good offered by a TNC to suit a local market.

High-Level Service - Services that require skilled employees and can have complicated processes e.g. financial services.

Interdependence - The theory that nations depend on each other economically, politically, socially and environmentally.

International Bank for Reconstruction & Development (IBRD) and World Bank Group (WBG) - Both offer loans and temporary financial assistance to developing countries.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) - A fund of 189 member countries with the aim to aid each other to achieve financial stability and provide loans for development.

KOF - Index of Globalisation which takes into account the social, economic and political globalisation of a state.

Liberalisation – A reduction in government control within industry, creating opportunity for greater participation from private businesses and TNCs within an industry.

Low-Level Service - Services that require little training or skills that can be easily learnt e.g. customer service call centres.

Merger - TNCs join to form one larger company, helping to form foreign links if the TNC is from a foreign country.

NGOs - Non-government Organisations - these organisations usually have a weaker influence over global governance.

Offshoring - Company moves parts of its operations to another country, often to save money.

Outsourcing - A business contracts outside businesses to complete some of their work, with the aim to reduce costs.

Periphery Region - Less wealthy, developing/ less developed countries that have less power over global markets.

Potential Areas of Growth - Regions where future economic development are predicted due to their undeveloped resources (e.g. Canada, Qatar).

Privatisation - When national public services become owned by private businesses.

Refugee - Those granted permanent or temporary residency by the host country or the UN refugee agency (UNHCR), who have been forced to leave their homes and travel to another country due to fleeing conflict, political or religious persecution.



Sovereignty - Control over a country's own laws and regulations.

Special Economic Zones (SEZ) - Regions where the government offer incentives to attract industry.

Transnational Company (TNC) - A company which operates in different countries to where they are originally based.

Trade Bloc - A group of countries that act together to promote trade and a free movement of goods/services between member states.

Transformationalist - This is the belief that globalisation won't lead to the formation of a homogeneous culture. Instead, the flow of culture is two-way.

Upward Transition Zones - A country or city with predicted industrial and economic increase (e.g. Mexico, Iceland, "The Asian Tigers").

World Trade Organisation (WTO) - Members seek substantial reductions on tariffs and trade barriers and the elimination of preferences on a mutually advantageous basis.

