

ANTH/SOCI 398-B, (De)Globalization & the Nation  
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**Reading Questions for Session 12**

**Norman Girvan, "Economic Nationalism"**

1. In Girvan's view, what is the "proper" way to understand the OPEC oil embargo of the early 1970s?
2. What is "economic nationalism"?
3. How does the "New International Economic Order" (NIEO) compare with what later became known as the "New World Order"?
4. How does the article resemble both Dependency Theory and some aspects of World-Systems Analysis?
5. What is the theory of "unequal exchange"?
6. Note that "international developmentalism" is the same as "modernization".
7. What impact did international developmentalism have on world economic inequality? On international trade?
8. How did the terms of trade contribute to the debt crisis?
9. Note the class structure of a typical dependent country.
10. What are some of the conditions that are necessary for the emergence of economic nationalism? What international conditions supported the rise of economic nationalism?
11. How do foreign multinational corporations operate in ways that echo colonialism, according to Girvan?
12. Note the factors that contributed to OPEC's success.
13. What presence does the US exercise in Girvan's account? Is it a marginal one? Just one actor among many?
14. How did OPEC's economic nationalism hurt the national interests of other Third World states? For example, how did OPEC's actions contribute to worsening debt crises?
15. Why did Third World countries support OPEC and calls for a NIEO?
16. Why was OPEC's success unlikely to solve underlying underdevelopment?
17. What are some of the ironies of OPEC's success?
18. Was the last sentence of the article overly optimistic? Did Girvan predict the kind of order that would replace the post-WWII international order?

**Aradhana Sharma & Akhil Gupta, "Rethinking Theories of the State in an Age of Globalization"**

1. How are states still important actors when it comes to the outsourcing of jobs? What is the irony?
2. Note the mention of economic nationalism.
3. Note the relationships between citizenship, national identity, and the state.
4. What is the reasoning behind the nationalistic reaction against outsourcing, in the US? Is it ironic?
5. At which "reductionism" are the authors taking aim?

6. How has the relation between the state and territoriality been altered? Note here the “unbundling of sovereignty”.
7. Is the nation-state obsolete?
8. What are three problematic assumptions in theories of the nation-state according to the authors?
9. What does the idea that states are “cultural constituted” entail?
10. What does the idea of “good governance” involve, and from where/what was this project disseminated?
11. How has the role of the state changed and even been enhanced under neoliberalism?
12. How do “human rights” function as a disciplinary instrument of neoliberal and Western hegemony?

#### **A.D. Smith, “Towards a Global Culture?”**

1. A.D. Smith acknowledges that there were serious, logical reasons and empirical evidence for thinking that nationalism, and nations, could be transcended. Make a list of those reasons.
2. Which political ideologies were the most internationalist, the most inclined to embrace cosmopolitanism or universalism?
3. How have some of the tools of globalization helped to foster the local, ethnic antithesis to the formation of a global culture?
4. What does a post-industrial “global culture” look like?
5. Why does “global culture” lack a history? How does that impact on the ability of global culture to become a reality?
6. What makes national cultures persist?
7. The “pre-modern” defeats “global culture”: why?
8. What is it that fuels the nationalist project? *Note* also where he outlines the additional reasons that national cultures retain a hold in a supposedly interdependent world.
9. In Smith’s view, why is nationalism seemingly more powerful than, as one example, socialism?