

Call for Papers

International Symposium: Globalization in a Post-COVID World: Retreat or Revival?

Organized by

Foundation for Law and International Affairs
East China University of Political Science and Law School of Foreign Studies

Time and Location

10am -10pm, February 27, 2021
Shanghai & Online



The Theme

There have been many discussions about the influences of globalization in general. While globalization promotes cross-border flow of people, goods, information, and capital, it can also exacerbate global crime and disease. The worldwide epidemic caused by the COVID-19 is certainly a consequence of the interdependence of our current world – no one is really separated from the global system.

Pandemics are happening and will happen again in the future. The more evolved human beings become, the more complicated problems will we face and a more comprehensive defense system will we need. That is almost a fate of human evolution. While being in the middle of this testing time, we have to both fight the virus and prepare for the post-coronavirus era to get back what we have lost during these times. But the question is where will the world go after the outbreak? Will we have a globalization upgrade or retreat?

The pandemic has had a significant impact on international finance, trade, politics, and other related fields.

In the international financial markets, the impact has already been felt. A downturn in the world economy could lead to an increase in bad debts and problems in the credit chain, which is expected to affect investor confidence in financial markets. Combined with the effect of the sharp fall in international crude oil prices, financial markets have been volatile. In addition, a sharp rise in corporate and government debt could also lead to deeper changes.

In the field of international trade, states and companies start to rethink their global supply chain strategies. Before the epidemic, globalization had already shifted manufacturing or supply chains to Asian countries where the cost is much lower. However, now the most economically advanced countries that are also the most medically advanced countries have realized the consequences of transferring the industries directly related to medical supplies and other essential products to other countries.

In terms of the international political structure, evidence so far has shown that the US has failed this leadership test. Neither have the established intergovernmental organization systems provided necessary and correct information or solutions to the public.

Will these consequences change the fate of globalization? Some scholars believe that we will see a further retreat from hyper-globalization, as citizens increasingly look to national governments to protect them and as states and firms seek to reduce future vulnerabilities. Others believe that if the pandemic shocks us into recognizing our real interest in cooperating multilaterally on the big global issues facing us, it will have served a useful purpose.

Although scholars have different opinions on the future of globalization, most people would agree with two things. First, the risks we are facing today are already globalized. Second, some new needs for economic globalization have been created, for example, industries that are based on e-commerce, internet tech or data science.

We want to find out a straightforward answer to the question of the fate of globalization. But we also want to take a deeper look at some important issues, such as:

- Is it possible to establish a new type of pragmatic and protective internationalism?
- How will the industrial structure and supply chain layout re-frame the global trade landscape?
- What direction are the trade law and supply chain regulations heading toward in a Post-COVID World?
- How should a new global risk prevention system be built and the global public health governance be strengthened?
- What should be done to help the less developed countries to recover from the epidemic?
- How should the two basic human rights — privacy and health — be protected, while at the same time using biometric surveillance as a temporary measure to prevent further outbreaks?

For all these questions we have in mind, FLIA and East China University of Political Science and Law School of Foreign Studies are pleased to announce the International Symposium titled “Globalization in a Post-COVID World: Retreat or Revival?” to address these important issues and hopefully to provide insights for scholars, students, practitioners, as well as governments, companies, and social organizations.

We invite and welcome experts from both academic and practice in the fields of law, finance, trade, politics, education, and medicine, to facilitate dialogues, and try to unravel the uncertainties facing us.

The Panels

- Panel One: The Implications of the Coronavirus Outbreak on Globalization
- Panel Two: International Law, Multinational Communication, and Global Governance
- Panel Three: Youth Resilience in the Post-COVID World: Education and Action

Submission

To attend the above panels, please submit a 250-500 word abstract, along with a copy of your resume, by Wednesday, February 10, 2021. Submissions should be sent to contact@flia.org with the subject title “FLIA 2021 Conference + Panel number.” The working language for these panels is English.

Publication

Selected papers may be published with the Spring issue of the Foundation for Law and International Affairs Review in 2021. To be considered for publication, completed papers should be about 8,000 -10,000 words and in Western academic style offering analysis or production of knowledge with an eye to the existing literature. Alternatively, papers can focus on rigorous policy analysis considering perspectives from leaders or academics in the field. The papers will be peer reviewed.

Expense

There is no registration fee to attend the conference. Conference participants will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation expense. Due to the travel restriction caused by the COVID-19, participants are encouraged to attend the conference online.

Please feel free to contact us at contact@flia.org with any questions or concerns.