Deglobalization 2016-2021: A Systematic Literature Review
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Abstract

Deglobalization is the process which results in the breaking down of global interconnection and interdependence. It refers to the undoing of globalization. This research project investigated how different factors, trends, issues and developments have affected deglobalization over the last five years thus helping to determine the trajectory of the deglobalization phenomenon. These factors include job insecurities, wage stagnation, wealth inequality, nationalism and global economic shocks. This research used a systematic literature review for data collection and thematic analysis for data analysis. The systematic literature review collected 52 articles for examination. Each article was read in its entirety and coded through the thematic analysis process. Through this process five themes emerged, each capturing an argument being made about the future of deglobalization. The five themes were Sustained Globalization which argues that globalization will continue, Decreased Globalization which argues globalization will continue but with a reduced level of international activity, Isolated Deglobalization which argues that deglobalization will manifest itself but only within vulnerable nations, Widespread Deglobalization which argues that deglobalization will manifest globally, and Restructured Global Order which argues the world is experiencing a reconfiguration of the international structure that facilitates global interconnection. The findings point to how factors such as automation adoption, long-term wealth inequality, poor distribution of globalization benefits, rising nationalism, global hegemonic decline and the COVID-19 pandemic have affected the deglobalization phenomenon over the last five years. This research found the world is shifting toward a state of deglobalization at an accelerated rate. However, this path is not a certainty as there are key events that may alter the course of deglobalization such as the result of the 2024 U.S.A presidential elections, the outcome of the Ukraine-Russian War and the success of Chinese initiatives to further globalization.
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Attestation of Authorship

“I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person (except where explicitly defined in the acknowledgements), nor material which to a substantial extent has been submitted for the award of any other degree or diploma of a university or other institution of higher learning.”

Signed:
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 – Introduction
Globalization and deglobalization are the two phenomena that represent the building of an integrated global society and the disintegration of that global society respectively. These two forces have been in a cycle for hundreds of years and with recent disruptions in the established international economy, concerns have risen that the world is experiencing a shift from globalization to deglobalization (Amadi, 2020). There are several factors driving forward deglobalization which have been increasing in impact due to challenges in international cooperation. Understanding how the world is positioned in terms of experiencing either an era of globalization or an era of deglobalization is vitally important for maintaining stability in the political and economic domains. The impacts of deglobalization cannot be understated as unresolved issues in wealth inequality, wage stagnation, job insecurity have been exacerbated by global shocks such as the 2008 Financial Crisis and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic (Abdal & Ferreira, 2021). These issues are resulting in national governments turning their back on the ideals of global cooperation and integration making the world a more hostile place (Awan, 2016).

In light of the difficult situation the world is in, this dissertation is aimed at investigating deglobalization to better understand its direction based on the factors that drive it into an uncertain future. This research provides an analysis and discussion about how certain factors have been affected by the last five years to evaluate deglobalization as a force. Within this research the term factors refer to the trends, issues and developments that affect deglobalization, either diving it forward or impending it’s spread. This research focuses on the global political and global economic domains to investigate deglobalization. Furthermore, this research focuses on providing a qualitative in-depth analysis as opposed to a statistical, quantitative approach.

1.2 – Research Design
Within the existing research on deglobalization a recent integrative review of deglobalization is absent. This limits the understanding of deglobalization as the ways in which deglobalization has been influenced by the international environment and the factors that drive it has not been explored. Exploring this gap is vital for understanding how deglobalization will be positioned as the world moves into the future. To investigate this issue, this research question was formed:

What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016 – 2021?

A systematic literature review is used for data collection and thematic analysis for data analysis. These methods were found to be the most effective means to explore the research question and research gap.
**1.3 – Outline**

This dissertation contains a total of six chapters. Chapter 1.0 Introduction has introduced the purpose of this research, provided a brief overview of the methodology and the structure of this dissertation.

Chapter 2.0 Background provides key definitions and offers a historical review of academic knowledge on deglobalization. The key factors driving deglobalization are laid out. This chapter explores in greater detail the research gap that is being addressed by this dissertation.

Chapter 3.0 Methodology provides the detailed report of the systematic literature review method for data collection and the justification behind its use. The results of the data collection method are provided and the thematic analysis method for data analysis is broken down into crucial steps.

Chapter 4.0 Findings presents the details of the codes and themes that emerged during the thematic analysis process. There are five themes presented and direct quotes are provided as evidence of the arguments being made by authors of the dataset.

Chapter 5.0 Discussion reflects on the results presented in the Findings chapter. This chapter discusses how key factors affecting the deglobalization force have changed over the last five years and how the impacts of this on deglobalization may manifest. The significance of this analysis is used to address the research question.

Chapter 6.0 Conclusion provides a summary of what this dissertation has presented. The limitations are discussed, and future research avenues are recommended.
2.0 Background

2.1 – Introduction
Globalization and deglobalization are two sides of the same coin. These two phenomena have been present in the world order for hundreds of years but more recently have been critical to the development of the political and economic structures that we live in. This chapter provides a contextual understanding of deglobalization by highlighting the current situation the world faces. The important factors that are driving deglobalization are presented. These factors affecting deglobalization include trends, issues and developments in the international space all of which have importance to the deglobalization debate. This chapter is broken down into three main parts; firstly, the definitions of globalization and deglobalization are presented to bring clarity to the key ideas discussed in this research. Secondly, an assessment of the pre-existing literature on the topic of deglobalization which demonstrates what is already understood in the deglobalization debate. Thirdly a discussion about where and how the deglobalization literature has failed to adequately investigate the prominence of deglobalization moving into the future.

2.2 – Definitions
Globalization and deglobalization are highly interlinked forces in which any discussion about deglobalization must also feature understanding of globalization. To provide this understanding, this section will highlight key definitions of the two phenomena.

Globalization has been analysed countless times over the decades and thus the definition of the phenomenon has been subject to varying fields, authors and perspectives that alter what globalization accurately represents. The same dynamic also applies to the definition of deglobalization. Some authors (Guillén, 2001; Sambharya et al., 2021) define globalization based on the presence of key elements transitioning between international bodies. Guillén (2001) defines globalization by stating:

“Intuitively, globalization is a process fueled by, and resulting in, increasing cross-border flows of goods, services, money, people, information and culture.” (Guillén, 2001, p. 236)

This definition identifies a number of key elements that are crucial aspects of globalization but fails to encompass all of them. Important elements such as technology and knowledge (Afolabi, 2020; Gao & Zhang, 2022) are not found in this definition. The elements relating to ideological, societal, or political dimensions are also not present in this definition, even though the spreading of ideologies between nations has large scale impacts for globalization with some ideologies being supportive and others being destructive (White, 2021). However, the main issue with this definition is that it does not state the impact of these element moving between countries and therefore this definition can be viewed more as a definition of the internal process of globalization rather than a definition of the globalization phenomenon itself.
Other authors (Dabic et al, 2020; Archibugi & Iammarino, 2002; Reinecke, 2006) begin to rectify this issue by focusing on the nature of the relationship that forms between nations as the increasing flow of the aforementioned key elements occurs. Commonly presented in the literature is that nations, governments, or international bodies that engage in the globalization process develop dependencies and connections between each other that facilitate deeper participation in globalization. Archibugi & Iammarino (2002) follow this design for defining globalization by stating:

“…by ‘globalization’ we mainly refer to a high (and increasing) degree of interdependency and interrelatedness among different and geographically dispersed actors.” (Archibugi & Iammarino, 2002, p. 99)

Even when under a more specific view that seeks to only acknowledge one certain aspect of globalization, the importance of increasing connection between two entities remains present, which Reinecke (2006) demonstrates by stating:

“Broadly speaking, economic globalization can be defined as the increasing interrelationship between national economies…” (Reinecke, 2006, p. 12)

Ultimately the best definition is a combination of these three. Figge & Martens (2014) accomplish this by stating:

“Globalisation is a complex process which leads to an increasing connectedness and interrelatedness in the political, economic, social and cultural, technological, and environmental domain on many different scales.” (Figge, & Martens, 2014, p. 1)

This definition of globalization acknowledges the upward trend of interconnections between two entities across the multi-faceted domains. An important note is to clarify that the connectedness between two entities also refers to the increasing levels of interdependencies. This research project uses this as the main definition for referring to globalization.

With the definition of globalization established it becomes significantly easier to define deglobalization. Consistent across the literature, deglobalization is considered to be the undoing of globalization. It is defined as being the breaking down or reversal of the interconnections, interdependencies, and interrelations between bodies of the world (Farndale et al, 2021). In light of this Kim, Li, & Lee (2020) demonstrate the reduction in globalization by stating:

“Deglobalization is the opposite context of globalization and is the process of diminishing interdependence and integration between certain units around the world, typically nation states.” (Kim, Li, & Lee, 2020 p. 1)

This definition adequately identifies that deglobalization is a process resulting in the separation of international entities, especially in the domains aforementioned in the globalization definition. This research uses this as the main definition for referring to deglobalization.
2.3 – Contextualizing Deglobalization

Deglobalization is a less discussed idea compared to the extensive literature on globalization. In this section the history of deglobalization and the context of the phenomenon before 2016 is shown.

An important portion of the literature on deglobalization has focused on the most recent period of deglobalization, the inter-war period of the 1930’s. After the first world war the world was in a difficult economic situation. Many of the nations that contributed towards the world economy were now struggling to maintain economic stability after the high cost of fighting a war. Although the 1920’s was a decade of economic prosperity for the U.S.A, the same could not be said for the rest of the world (Harrison & Weder, 2009). However, when the 1929 stock market crash occurred the world was thrust into the Great Depression, marking the start of the 1930’s deglobalization period (Ruzana, 2015). The great depression severely impacted home economies and what remained of the global economy which further fragmented nations from each other (Rab, 2020).

In relation and response to the worsening economic situation, many nations saw a rise in popularity of nationalistic governments, which are a central factor of deglobalization. These nationalist governments focused on implementing protectionist policies to limit the financial strains on nation (Berend, 2016). The spread of nationalistic governments, agendas and policies was seen across the European region. Nations such as in Italy (Murtha et al., 2021), Germany (Galofré-Vilà et al., 2021), Lithuania (Janužytė, A. (2021), Turkey (Cagaptay, 2004), Romania (Ionescu, 2019) and other nations in Eastern Europe were exposed to nationalistic leadership. The presence of these nationalist governments made political cooperation increasingly difficult and the rising tensions between these nationalist governments over territorial claims led the world towards another crisis (Borazan, 2017; Vasquez, 1996; Strikwerda, 2016).

These heightened tensions eventually erupted into World War 2. Conversely to the years post WW1, the nations of the world set about creating international connections and cooperation in the hopes that such a disaster would not repeat itself. The end of World War 2 marked the beginning of the globalization period that today’s society is built upon (Harley, 2000). The U.S.A became the world hegemon and assumed the role of global leader for the deepening of international cooperation and integration (Clark, 2009). This was supported by the creation of multilateral institutions that would play a vital role in the development of globalization. Institutions such as the European Union, the United Nations, the World Bank, the World Trade Organization and the International Monetary Fund act as platforms for the facilitation of international trade as well as capital flows.

In the post-WW2 years, throughout the cold war and up till present day these multilateral institutions have followed a western-centric structure under the guidance of the U.S.A hegemon. This western-styled structure was effective at creating stability and predictability in the international arena. These international institutions were important in supporting the economic development of national
economies in both developed and developing countries. Multilateral bodies such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund acted as the medium for foreign financial aid and capital investments whilst the United Nations sought to ensure ethical interactions between countries (Galli, 1976; Wood, 1980). However, in recent decades, examination of the role these institutions have played over the years has revealed that they continue to fail in their ability to effectively resolve issues in the international business landscape especially on the topics of taxation, human rights and environmental impacts (May, 2017; Lim, 2021). Furthermore, due the circumstances that created these international institutes, their western-centric style has been labelled as biased against any nation that does not conform to traditional western-democratic values and systems of government (Reinsberg et al., 2021). The threat of economic sanctions was often used to enforce the acceptance of what western society deemed correct or important (Li, 2014).

Over the course of the late 20th century, globalization was accelerated as neoliberal economic policies and the opening of the world economy deepened integration. Neoliberalism is a political ideal that seeks to increase international business by limiting the involvement of governments in the market, promoting a reduction in barriers that make international markets inaccessible and the encouragement of democratic reforms in governments globally (Crenshaw & Anthony, 2012). Neoliberalism was championed by the U.K and the U.S.A and thus the international institutions mentioned above also structured their activities to follow neoliberal values (DuRand, 2019). Neoliberalism is core to the globalization the world has experienced over the past four decades as it has resulted in economic openness and the deepening of interconnections (Regilme Jr, 2014).

One nation that has benefited greatly from participating in the neoliberal international economy is China. China was originally a nation excluded from the international arena but in the late 1970’s the nation successfully integrated itself into the world economy and global political platforms (Shichor, 2020). China gained attention from developed countries by providing an attractive labour market. The combination of a large scale and low-cost labour market meant that international firms would be able to manufacture their products at greater efficiency and lower cost of production. Over the next four decades, thousands of companies from western markets relocated their manufacturing operations into China and other developing nations that presented similar advantages (Podrecca et al., 2021). The introduction of China into the world economy accelerated globalization as global supply chains were formed and international business expanded, deepening the interdependencies between nations.

The acceleration towards a state of hyper-globalization (Russo, 2020) is not unanimously agreed upon in the literature to be a positive process. For example, the economic reforms that neoliberalism brought about have not all been effective as nations in South America have experienced high levels of wealth inequality and unemployment due to trade liberalizations that consolidated the advantages of international trade into the already wealthy (Harris, 2000). It is not only the developing nations of
South America that were negatively affected by the factors of hyper-globalization (Broz et al, 2021). The deepening levels of interdependence between entities began to manifest negative impacts on globalization as factors resembling the notion of deglobalization started to form.

The formation of deglobalization trends began to come into existence the moment globalization activities were undertaken but in the last two decades these trends have become more salient and impactful. One key activity that has acted as an origin point for backlash against globalization is the mass offshoring of western firms into developing nations. This was sparked by the availability of low-cost labour markets resulting in wide adoption of offshoring strategies by multinational corporations (Bock, 2008), however the long-term consequences were not fully realized. Famously, one consequence of the offshoring process was the displacement of jobs (Roberts, 2005). The nature of offshoring is to move manufacturing operations to access a different workforce that may have a particular advantage sought after. By doing this the current workforce are removed from the company as they cannot provide the same advantage and are realistically not going to relocate themselves to maintain their employment. The result of mass offshoring increased unemployment in western nations, which has had negative impacts on economic growth (Holland et al, 2007). The advantages of reduced costs of production may have allowed for short term profit gains in the late 1900’s but the long-term consequences of widespread job loss have begun to outweigh those benefits during the 2000’s (Levy, 2005; Baily & Lawrence, 2004).

Another issue related to globalization and offshoring is the wage stagnation found in developed countries. Wage stagnation refers to the limited increase of average income for low to medium skilled workers. It has been identified that with increased exposure to international trade as well as the increased access to foreign labour markets the average income of low to medium-skilled workers is negatively affected (Ahsan, 2013; Murakami, 2021). Thus, not only do low to medium-skilled workers in manufacturing and service industries face the threat of job loss they must also contend with the fact that their income has remained stagnate whilst multinational corporations have significantly increased their profits (Geishecker, & Görg, 2013), indicating that the globalization process is not beneficial to all (Weiher & Beladi, 2011). The pay gap between high-skilled workers and low to medium-skilled workers continues to grow with exposure to international economic activities, further reinforcing that globalization does not have equal benefits (Barbe, & Riker, 2018).

The inequalities of globalization are also a key issue driving deglobalization. It has been recorded that wealth inequality has dramatically increased since hyper-globalization took off in the late 1970’s. The literature indicates that as global economic interconnectedness increases then the rich and already well off become even richer whilst the poor become even poorer (Lee et al, 2020). These two groups are often referred to as the 1% representing the rich and wealthy upper-class whilst the 99% represent a combination of the middle-class and lower-class who may not be financially affluent. Trade
liberalization has allowed for multinational corporations to profit from access to cheaper international labour and resource markets but the savings on cost and efficiency have not been consistently passed down to the workers or consumers (Asteriou et al, 2014). Instead wealth inequality has been increasing as globalization expands due to the failures of governing bodies and international institutions in mandating effective distribution of globalization benefits (Adam, 2008). Failures in taxation systems and policies have led to the gains of globalization being consolidated within the 1% (Antràs et al, 2017). It has been argued in the globalization literature that trade liberalization and international economic cooperation reduces the wealth inequality between nations, conversely the deglobalization literature reveals that wealth inequality increases within a nation as they participate in these activities (Batuo & Asongu, 2015; Braha-Vokshi et al, 2021).

The individuals and groups of people who have lost their jobs to globalization, experienced income disadvantages because of globalization and have been excluded from the benefits of globalization ultimately form a wider group known as the losers of globalization (Lamp, 2019). The losers, who have been disadvantaged by globalization, stand in opposition to those that have benefitted greatly from globalization known as the winners. The losers of globalization harbour ideologies and sentiments that are against the globalization process (Teney et al, 2014). The losers have formed a mistrust in the international order as the leaders and institutions that govern the globalization process have failed to protect the losers (Burgoon & Schakel, 2022; Bakir & Bahtiyar, 2017). The losers of globalization have been a growing group in terms of power and size. The growing number of losers of globalization, found in both developed and developing countries, in combination with anti-globalization ideals has led to a rise in protectionist policies and nationalist governments (Osgood, 2022; Prempeh, 2004).

More recently, rising nationalists and protectionist policies in the international arena have posed a serious threat to global cooperation. The Trump Administration and Brexit have demonstrated that anti-globalization sentiment has reached the level of national governance, indicating that deglobalization has begun to manifest at the global level and is longer the viewpoint of some disgruntled citizens. Nationalist and populist governments have been increasing in popularity as they gain support from groups that are skeptical of globalization or international cooperation (Buttel, 2003). These nationalist parties direct their policies towards the idea of returning their nation to former glory and reclaiming sovereignty from foreign powers (Antonsich, 2020). This anti-globalization outlook at the government level has begun to impact the international arena with tensions rising between powers and economic confrontations breaking out, as seen by the U.S.A and China Trade War (Žemaitytė & Urbšienė, 2020). A significant increase in tariffs and rising barriers to international business across the world (Abrenica et al, 2019) suggest that the interconnectedness of globalization is being undone and that the anti-globalization movement can no longer be ignored (Charpin, 2021).
The above trends have demonstrated how deglobalization is taking shape and what factors have been giving it momentum. These factors have varied in saliency over the years but have become more impactful over time as issues have remained unresolved. However, one crucial event that acted as an acceleration to many of these factors is the 2008 Financial Crisis. The 2008 Financial Crisis had serious impacts for globalization as a series of globalization activities such as foreign direct investment and international trade decreased in volume as well as value (UNCTAD, 2018). The concerns of anti-globalization movements were inflamed, and new political trends emerged that were more cautious about international economic integration (Aničić et al., 2020).

Similar impacts on globalization are currently being experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated economic shocks. The COVID-19 pandemic’s impact on the globalization and deglobalization debate is still unfolding but recent observations suggest that the ideals and activities of globalization have been significantly weakened by COVID-19 related disruptions (Abdal & Ferreira, 2021; Hameiri, 2021).

The literature on deglobalization continues to expand as new developments in the world emerge. The year 2016 marks an important development for deglobalization as the election of Donald Trump indicated to the world the seriousness of the anti-globalization movement. The Trump Administration was a major global shock to the world, as the last known global hegemon and champion of globalization was turning against the phenomenon it promoted for the last six decades. The events of 2016 marked the start of a snowball effect as deglobalization became more visible in the international arena.

### 2.4 – Research Gap

The current literature focuses on two areas. The first examines the historical role of deglobalization during the 1930’s. The second provides commentary on the factors affecting deglobalization. However, what has not been completed is an in-depth examination of deglobalization in the years following 2016.

As mentioned above, 2016 is a crucial point for the deglobalization discussion as the events that occurred symbolize that deglobalization has become highly impactful on a global scale. In previous years factors the drive deglobalization were mounting but the impacts of these remained ignorable however the events of 2016, such as the Trump Administration and the U.K referendum on Brexit, demonstrate a serious change in the scale of deglobalization. Since 2016 many of the factors relating to deglobalization have become more salient and this has sparked some researchers to examine the increasing impact of these on the world. However, what has yet to be done is a systematic review of these academic debates that collects the arguments being made into a single space so that an evaluation can be made on how deglobalization is being shaped by these factors. This research
addresses this by conducting a systematic literature review on the academic debates surrounding deglobalization in the years of 2016 to 2021. To examine this gap, this research question was formed:

What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016-2021?

This research question and project address an important gap as the factors of deglobalization continue to grow more impactful and accelerate the phenomenon. Once again, these factors of deglobalization refer to any trend, issue or development that affects deglobalization. The recent changes in deglobalization have not been adequately been investigated despite their clear importance for the future of the global society. Given the acceleration of deglobalization over the last five years a great deal of change has occurred thus it is crucial that we understand the direction and strength of deglobalization. Understanding the trajectory of deglobalization can provide insight on how the world will maintain international cooperation, strategic alliances, and global stability.

This research project also contributes to a gap in the methodologies typically used in deglobalization research. Research on deglobalization is regularly conducted through quantitative means (Lamba, 2021). The presence of qualitative research on deglobalization is exceedingly small. This research will address this gap through the use of qualitative focused methods for data collection and data analysis, later discussed in chapter 3.0 Methodology.

2.5 – Conclusion
This chapter defined the key terms and provided crucial background context to the academic debates surrounding deglobalization. The varying definitions of globalization and deglobalization have been highlighted with two definitions being selected as the basis for this research. The core elements of the existing academic literature on deglobalization have been laid out to identify the focus on historical deglobalization and also the factors driving deglobalization such as job loss, income stagnation, wealth inequality, anti-globalization movements, rising nationalism and the impacts of crisis events.

The research gap has been identified as the lack of research examining recent developments affecting the deglobalization phenomenon as well as a lack of qualitative approaches to the deglobalization topic.
3.0 Methodology

3.1 – Introduction
This research seeks to explore the research gap through the research question: What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016 – 2021? To do this a systematic literature review was used for data collection and a thematic analysis was conducted for data analysis. This chapter will outline the reasons behind the use of a systematic literature review, the benefits of a systematic literature review for this specific research project, the reasons behind the use of thematic analysis and the benefits that it provided. The steps for each method are outlined and any adaptations are justified.

3.2 – Systematic Literature Review
The systematic literature review method for data collection is a proven and robust tool (Siddaway, 2019). The systematic literature review method draws on the existing literature to collect concepts, ideas and theories into one place allowing for integration of the various understandings on a topic (Siddaway, 2019; Paul & Barai, 2022). In practice a systematic literature review follows a series of steps to access a database (Khan et al, 2020), extract the targeted data through the use of an inclusion criteria, and refine the extracted dataset with an exclusion criteria. The steps followed as well as the two sets of criteria are discussed later in this chapter. The systematic literature review is renowned for its ability to bring together multiple sources to discern avenues for future research (Sahu & Rao, 2020).

The systematic literature review method provides several advantages. Principally, the ability to collect multiple perspectives and arguments on a topic into a single dataset grants the potential for creating new conclusions (Baumeister, 2013) that are vital for the creation of new knowledge. A systematic literature review can achieve these new conclusions through another advantage in the data collection process which minimizes the subjectivity of researchers and any bias that authors may have (Siddaway, 2019). The nature of a systematic literature review which brings together a vast array of resources is what allows for the identification of faults and errors of judgement, in turn refining the understanding on a topic (Snyder, 2019). Another advantage that a systematic literature review provides is that due to the wider intake of resources, any issues related to classification or wording can be overcome through the search terms (Chintalapati & Pandey, 2022). The search terms for this research are presented later in this chapter. The process of data collection through a systematic literature review allows for the use of multiple search terms that can retrieve resources from more specific areas of study and combine them with more general insights helping to combine current understanding with newer, innovative interpretations (Tong et al, 2012).

A systematic literature review method for data collection was chosen based on these advantages. These advantages meant that this method was the best fit for addressing the research gap. As
demonstrated in the previous chapter, research conducted on the topic of deglobalization typically only focuses on one aspect of the phenomenon and thus there has been an absence of a systematic literature review on the deglobalization topic. The systematic literature review method brings together a variety of resources, meaning the arguments within the deglobalization topic can be brought together into one research project. Furthermore, the globalization and deglobalization topics are closely related thus the systematic literature review method was picked as it would overcome any issues of classification or wording. An example of this advantage being exercised is given in the following section. Finally, the systematic literature review is flexible in the sense that it can collect either qualitative or quantitative datasets (Noblit et al, 1988; Paterson et al, 2001). Given that a previous quantitative review on deglobalization has been conducted, the use of a systematic literature review with focusing on the creation of a qualitative dataset meant that this research project would help improve the lack of qualitative studies on the topic but would also complement existing reviews. The use of this systematic literature review meant that the research could be effectively focused on the time period of 2016 to 2021 thus providing an integration of very recent developments in both the real world and the academic debates.

3.3 – Data Collection
A systematic literature review achieves its robust nature by following a set of pre-established steps. This allows other researchers to replicate the research project. The steps are broken down into 5 key stages: Scoping, Planning, Identification & Searching, Screening and Eligibility. This section explains in detail each step and how they were practically executed.

3.3.1 – Scoping
The first activity undertaken is the scoping of the project (Siddaway, 2019). This scoping is the foundation for designing the direction of the research. This included establishing the research question: What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016 – 2021? This question is structured to address how might the deglobalization force maneuver into the near future by drawing on perspectives presented by academics. This research question allows for a level of breadth that includes perspectives from a deglobalization standpoint and a globalization standpoint with those perspectives deriving from various factors within the phenomena. This question has not been examined by other reviews. This research wanted to investigate the direction the deglobalization force is heading by examining what factors are deemed the most important and how impactful they will be for driving deglobalization.

3.3.2 – Planning
With the scope of the research established as drawing from both deglobalization-centric and globalization-centric perspectives, the next step was planning. In the planning phase the search terms were established. The inclusion criteria and the exclusion criteria were also developed. To ensure that
the search terms did not clash, three searches were planned with each focusing on a different approach to how the deglobalization phenomenon may be referred to and its characteristics examined. The three search focuses were used to investigate the research gap and target the varying perspectives of how the research question might be addressed.

**A Deglobalization Focus.** This focus represents the most typical and important view of the factors that drive deglobalization. These search terms targeted the understanding that the trends, issues and developments visible in the phenomenon contributed directly to advancement of deglobalization. The search terms created to investigate this focus were created with attention to the varying ways the words could be spelt. These search terms were created:

Deglobalization OR “De-globalization” OR “Deglobalisation” OR “De-globalisation” OR Anti-globalization OR “Anti-globalisation” OR “Slowbalization” OR “Slow-balisation” OR “Slowbalisation” OR “Slow-balisation” OR “Deinternationalization” OR “De-internationalization” OR “Deinternationalisation” OR “De-internationalisation”

Many of these search terms are variations in terms of spelling with a ‘Z’ or a ‘S’ and whether to include a hyphen. By specifically including these varied spellings the search overcomes any societal spelling customs/norms from international articles thus allowing for a greater range of articles to be examined. The use of the quotation marks search mechanic continues to aid in overcoming any spelling barriers. The use of the OR search mechanic allows for the search to include any results that has any search term present. This is crucial to utilize as without it particular perspectives that discuss deglobalization but refer to the phenomenon by a different term (such as De-internationalization) would not have been present in the search results.

**A Reglobalization Focus.** This focus targets the perspectives that the factors related to deglobalization are actually leading to a restructuring of the globalization system instead of a deconstruction. The search terms created to investigate this focus were:

Reglobalization OR “Re-globalization” OR “Reglobalisation” OR “Re-globalisation” OR Reinternationalization OR “Re-internationalization” OR “Reinternationalisation” OR “Re-internationalisation”

Once again keen attention was given to the varieties of spellings in combination with the quotation marks search mechanic to overcome any societal spelling customs/norms. The OR search mechanic was used again to achieve the same type of outcome as expressed previously.

**A Negative Globalization Focus.** This focus is configured slightly differently from the previous two. This focus targets a similar space in the literature to the Deglobalization Focus in that seeks to find factors contributing to deglobalization. However, this approach targets the external attitudes towards the current globalization process. As such these search terms were created:
Globalization OR “Globalisation”

AND Backlash OR “Back-lash” OR “Back lash”

Once again keen attention was given to the varieties of spellings in combination with the quotation marks search mechanic to overcome any societal spelling customs/norms. The OR search mechanic was used again to achieve the same type of outcome as expressed previously. In this focus, the AND search mechanic was utilized. This mechanic is important as it allows for this focus to search effectively for any variety of the keyword Globalization in combination with any variety of the keyword Backlash and as such will search for articles that present the idea of backlash against globalization. Without the AND, these search terms would access articles that are centralized around globalization and thus flood the search results with articles that are not the primary topic of examination.

**Inclusion Criteria.** The inclusion criteria were designed to direct the research in terms of specificity, relevance and quality. These criteria were created:

1. The article is published within the years of 2016 -2021.
2. The article is published in English.
3. The article is published with a journal that rates as an A*, A or B ranking in the ABDC Rankings.
4. The article is relevant to the topic of examination.

The articles needed to be published within the years of 2016 and 2021 in order to achieved the desired relevance for this research. This research aims to analyze the growing deglobalization literature to address the research question. However, examination of older articles has already been covered by previous reviews and fails to acknowledge the rapidly changing environment and uncertainty in the international arena that the last few years has generated.

The need for the articles to have been published in the ABDC Ranking with a A*, A or B ranking is designed to ensure that only the highest quality of research is examined thus increasing the quality, relevance and validity of this research project.

The need for the article to be published in English is grounded in two aspects. Firstly, I am incapable of reading and understanding a foreign language. Secondly, if the article is originally published in a foreign language and was auto-translated, there is an inherent risk of the understanding of the article becoming twisted as auto-translation tools do not always provide a perfect translation.

The final criterion, relevance of the article to the topic of examination, is explained later in this section.
**Exclusion Criteria.** The exclusion criteria closely mirrors the inclusion criteria but has additional criteria that aims to remove unwanted and unneeded resources. These exclusion criteria were created:

1. The article is published outside the years of 2016 – 2021.
2. The article is published in a foreign language.
3. The article is published with a journal that rates at a C on the ABDC Ranking List.
4. The article is published with a journal that is not ranked/listed on the ABDC Ranking List.
5. The article is a duplicate.
6. The article focuses on a particular company case-study.
7. The article is not relevant to the topic of examination.

The justification for exclusion criteria item 1, 2, 3 and 4 remain the same as the inclusion criteria.

The need to exclude an article that is a case-study of a particular company is based on the level of specificity found in this of article. At the firm-level the relevance of the deglobalization/globalization phenomenon is limited, but even more so when the focus of the research is directed specifically to a firm’s operations, market position, competition or leadership. As such these articles are removed as they are not of the desired level of analysis.

Removal of duplications is to ensure efficiency during data analysis as it is pointless to include multiple copies of the same resource.

The final item, found in both the exclusion criteria and the inclusion criteria, requires a greater level of justification than the other items. The need to remove articles that are not relevant to the topic of examination and the need to keep those that are, is the main deciding factor that builds the finalized dataset. In this research project, relevance refers to the how the article relates to the deglobalization/globalization phenomenon at the macro, national or global level of examination and in respect to the political-economic domain that this research focuses on. As such, articles from particular fields of study that are outside the faculties of ‘Business’ that do not strongly relate to the global political-economic domain are removed. These fields include (but are not limited to):

- Culture
- Immigration
- Education
- Technology
- Health
- Food
- Psychology
- History
The article may fall within the faculties of ‘Business’ but are within a school/field of business that is not the focus of this research. These are removed as they would take the investigation into a direction that is not primarily focus of this research project. These schools/fields can include (but are not limited to):

- Human Resources
- Accounting
- Marketing, advertising, retailing and sales
- Event Management
- Project Management
- Real Estate
- Hospitality
- Administration
- Employment Relations
- Information Systems
- Research guides or agendas for future research

Research guides and future research agendas can specifically relate to the topic of examination; however, often these types of works do not present a level of detail that is desired for the examination of deglobalization/globalization. Instead they highlight the directions of research actively being
investigated or needing to be investigated by providing surface level summaries on the topic. As such, due to the lack of specific evidence and discussions on deglobalization they are excluded.

In the instance in which an article was within the desired field and relates to deglobalization but was examining data outside the publication date of 2016 – 2021 a judgement call had to be made. If an article was published within the 2016 – 2021 window but focuses on analyzing evidence/data from research outside of this window (for example a review of national economic activity from 2006 till 2013) then a judgement must be made in terms of its relevance to the 2016 – 2021 period of time. If the article adequately relates the evidence of previous years to the situation present in the 2016 – 2021 window than it is acceptable for inclusion, however if it fails to make a strong connection between the analysis of data from previous years to the situation present in the 2016 – 2021 window than it is not of relevance and thus was excluded from the final dataset.

Finally, if an article focuses on the firm-level of analysis then it was excluded. These articles typically consist of research into firm-level strategies or management-level strategies. These articles are not of the desired level of analysis and although they mention the deglobalization/globalization keywords/search terms they do not focus on these phenomena. As such, if an article focuses on firm-level examination or firm-level strategies then it was excluded.

3.3.3 – Identification & Searching

This stage is the application of the search terms into a database in order to access the articles that make up the final dataset. To create a thorough set of articles, two databases were searched. The first database, Business Source Complete, was selected as the primary database. Business Source Complete focuses on providing resources that are part of the business field of study and thus would ultimately help to cut out any unrelated fields. The second database, Scopus, was used as a complimentary database to results found in Business Source Complete. Scopus does not primarily focus on business literature and thus provided a greater range of articles from varying fields.

Business Source Complete. The Business Source Complete database was accessed via the EBSCO platform. On this platform three searches were made with each search being aimed at the three focuses developed in the Planning phase. Search parameters were created to target the specifics of the inclusion criteria. These parameters were applied to the search engine. The parameters were:

- Jan 2016 – Dec 2021 publication date.
- Academic journals.
- Peer reviewed.
- Apply related words.
- Apply equivalent subjects.
With the parameters established, the search fields were then chosen. In order to effectively reach as many articles as possible, three search fields were selected: Title, Abstract and Author Supplied Keywords.

These parameters and search fields were used for the all three searches done on Business Source Complete. Search one: A Deglobalization Focus presented 191 results. Search two: A Reglobalization Focus presented 17 results. Search three A Negative Globalization Focus presented 43 results. During this searching process it was crucial that the searches be completed independently as the key search terms used would ultimately clash if combined in a singular search. Finally, the results of the three separate searches were combine through the use of a combine search results tool on the EBSCO platform. The three searches would total 251 (191 + 17 + 43 = 251) results. The EBSCO platform automatically removes duplications between the three searches, thus the final combined results from the Business Source Complete database was 232 articles. The next step was to replicate the search attempts as close as possible on the Scopus database.

**Scopus.** The Scopus database does not have the exact same configuration for setting up the parameters of the search as the EBSCO platform, thus the closet options were selected:

- 2016 – 2021 publication date.
- Resource type: Article.
- Added to Scopus: Anytime.
- Publication Stage: Final

The search fields selected were identical to that of the Business Source Complete Search, Article Title, Abstract and Keywords. Search one: A Deglobalization focus presented 289 results. Search two: A Reglobalization Focus presented 22 results. Search three: A Negative Globalization Focus presented 84 results. Unfortunately, Scopus does not have a feature that allows for the combination of search results from different searches. Thus, a total of 395 Results are present (289 + 22 + 84 = 395). It is important to note that this 395 set of articles has not had duplications across the three separate searches removed as there is no tool for automatic removal.

**Business Source Complete and Scopus Combined Results.** The collective results of all searches done in both databases resulted in 627 articles. This 627 did not have duplications removed between the two databases as this would occur in the following stages.

**3.3.4 – Screening**

This stage is the first application of the Exclusion Criteria, in particular:

1. The article is published outside the years of 2016 – 2021.
2. The article is published in a foreign language.
3. The article is published with a journal that rates at a C on the ABDC Ranking List.
4. The article is published with a journal that is not ranked/listed on the ABDC Ranking List.
5. The article is a duplicate.

First the Scopus set of results was checked with the Business Source Complete results to remove any duplications between them, this created a new set of 268 new articles. Scopus Search one had 78 duplicates meaning 211 new articles had been presented. Scopus Search two had 13 duplicates meaning 9 new articles had been presented. Scopus Search three had 36 duplicates meaning 48 new articles had been presented. This meant 268 non-duplicate articles had been gathered from the Scopus database.

With the cross duplicates removed the remaining 232 Business Source Complete results and 268 Scopus results were checked by date of publication, the language of the article and using the most recent ABDC ranking list available to check if the journal the article is published in is of a A*, A or B ranking. This process saw that 97 articles were rejected from the Business Source Complete dataset and 269 articles from the Scopus dataset were rejected. This left 135 approved articles from the Business Source Complete dataset and 29 approved articles from the Scopus dataset, giving a total of 164 approved articles.

3.3.5 – Eligibility
This stage continues the application of the Exclusion Criteria, in particular:

1. The article focuses on a particular company case-study.
2. The article is not relevant to the topic of examination.

The 164 articles were check by reading the abstract and the full text if needed, to understand the type of article and its relevance to this research project. Of the Business Source Complete dataset, 40 articles were approved, and 95 articles were rejected. Of the Scopus dataset, 12 were approved and 17 were rejected. This gave a grand total of 52 approved articles. The 52 articles were double checked to ensure that there is a full text version available, and no articles were removed as all were fully accessible.

The refinement process to produce the final dataset of 52 articles was reviewed twice to ensure equal and consistent application of the exclusion criteria was applied.

3.4 – Data Analysis
The 52 approved articles were analyzed through Thematic Analysis (TA). TA is a useful method for analyzing patterns of meaning and highlights the themes that are important to the phenomenon under investigation (Joffe, 2012).
3.4.1 – Thematic Analysis

The Thematic Analysis method of data analysis consists of six stages that make use of coding to allocate and group themes (Clarke & Braun, 2014). This analysis technique fits well with this research as the resources collected vary in their discussion depending on the factors they have focused on. TA helps to overcome this barrier by not focusing on the specifics of the factor but instead how those affect the overall state of deglobalization.

Stage 1: Familiarization of Data. This stage is designed to become familiar with the data by reading the articles and taking notes. During this process the abstracts, introductions and conclusions were read in their entirety. The rest of the article was skim read to grasp a sense of what was being discussed. Initial ideas and understandings were noted down in a separate document.

Dataset Description: This process gave the indication that the 52 approved articles offered a broad range of perspectives on the topic of deglobalization. These perspectives included ideas of rapid decoupling/de-internationalizing, overstatements of the impacts of deglobalization, and estimations of the unequal effects of deglobalization. The dataset also varied in its location of investigation thus demonstrating how deglobalization is being shaped in places such as U.S.A, U.K, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, India, China (as well as Southeast Asia) and Australia. Overall, the dataset provided various arguments and viewpoints on multiple factors affecting deglobalization. Interestingly, there were no articles from the year 2016 in the finalized set. Four articles were from 2017, five articles were from 2018, six articles were from 2019, three articles were from 2020, and 35 were from 2021. Most articles were published in a journal that was of an economic, political or international affairs standpoint thus demonstrating that the exclusion criteria were successful in removing articles that were unrelated to this field of study such as cultural journals or psychology journals. For a breakdown of all articles and the authors stance in the deglobalization debate, refer to Appendix 2.

Stage 2: Coding of Data. This stage allocated codes to particular features, sections or elements of each articles. These codes represented something of importance for addressing the research question and gap. The articles were read individually in their entirety to identify where codes should be allocated. 21 codes emerged which indicated a variety of items throughout each article. The codes themselves were given a corresponding colour to highlight the item and a note as to why an item is of importance or relevance.

For example, an item from an article that was coded with the PRO-GLOBALIZATION code would appear as such:

*Some economists estimate that the world GDP is at least 10 percent higher—or an additional $8.5 trillion—because of globalization. Globalization has produced enormous net benefits for the world: gains for consumers, hundreds of millions of additional jobs, and alleviation of mass poverty in developing nations.*
Two codes of interest were the **MULTICODE** and **COVID MARKER**. The **MULTICODE** was applied to items that had multiple codes present. The **MULTICODE** was used to ensure the meaning of the content was not lost as splitting up and coding the content separately with individual codes would derail the overall meaning. The **COVID MARKER** was applied to items that were already coded with an established code. The **COVID MARKER** indicated that the code applied is somehow different due to the presence or consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For a full list of Codes, their meaning and examples please refer to Appendix 1.

It is important to explain that the articles examined very rarely ever expressed just one side of the story. Articles may emphasise one side of the spectrum of debate, depicted in Appendix 2, but in order to make an effective argument they would commonly present ideas from their opposition. This meant that during the coding process an article would often contain codes highlighting ideas of globalization in relation to deglobalization and vice versa. For an overview of the articles and where they are placed on the spectrum within the globalization vs deglobalization debate, please refer to Appendix 2.

**Stage 3: Collecting Codes into Themes.** This stage saw the codes initially grouped together to generate themes. Codes that held any overlaps in the meanings, perspectives, interpretations and understandings of the topic were grouped together to assemble a draft theme.

**Stage 4: Review of Codes with Themes.** This stage is used to refine the draft themes and to ensure that the information represented by the draft themes accurately represented the content that was coded and that the true meaning of what the authors presented was not lost.

The themes were reviewed by adjusting the grouped codes into different assemblies to see if they were correctly representing the narrative of the content. If not, then the codes would be removed from that theme and moved to another theme ensuring accurate alignment with the coded material. If an item of content was incorrectly coded, this stage saw them relabeled to ensure authentic representation of the dataset.

**Stage 5: Theme Development.** This stage saw the themes fully defined and expressed in terms of what they represent thus preparing them for deeper analytical evaluation in the final stage.

The themes are comprised of several codes, each of which represent a crucial aspect of that theme.

The articles were read and coded in chronological order of their publication year (2016 to 2021), and this presented a narrative of how the development of deglobalization was being perceived across the five years reviewed.
The data-analysis process of combining the coded content presented five themes: Sustained Globalization, Decreased Globalization, Isolated Deglobalization, Widespread Deglobalization and Restructured Global Order. The combination of codes is demonstrated as:

Sustained Globalization primary codes:
- Pro-Globalization
- Anti-Deglobalization
- Deglobalization Issues

Decreased Globalization primary codes:
- Acknowledge Slowbalization
- Decreasing Globalization
- No Retreat: Globalization

Isolated Deglobalization primary codes:
- Globalization Backlash
- Nationalistic
- Disillusioned Globalization
- Inequality

Widespread Deglobalization primary codes:
- Pro-Deglobalization
- COVID Impact

Restructured Global Order primary codes:
- Restructuring
- Global Hegemony

It is important to note that the themes benefited from codes that were part of other themes. For example, the Widespread Deglobalization theme benefits greatly from the codes of the Isolated Deglobalization theme as they provide crucial understanding of the deglobalization concept.

The remaining codes (presented below) were used in a supportive manner instead of playing a primary role within a theme. The content highlighted with these codes could stem from a perspective that is supportive of globalization or of deglobalization thus the contents of these codes were reviewed individually, and each coded item was allocated to a candidate theme:
- POS-IMP
The MULTICODE received a similar treatment of individual review. Content highlighted by the MULTICODE were reviewed individually to draw out the elements that would inform the creation of the themes.

The five themes, Sustained Globalization, Decreased Globalization, Isolated Deglobalization, Widespread Deglobalization and Restructured Global Order each represent an argument being made in relation to the research question: What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016 – 2021? The themes can be presented as such:

- Sustained Globalization
- Decreased Globalization
- Isolated Deglobalization
- Widespread Deglobalization
- Restructured Global Order

Each theme covers factors contributing to the likelihood of future pathways for the world. To demonstrate these pathways the authors of the articles analysed give their perspectives on a number of these factors. A factor is considered to be an important trend, issue or development, for example the COVID-19 pandemic is considered to be a factor as it is a development having a significant effect on globalization and deglobalization. The perspectives of the authors on the varying key factors differ and hence their interpretation is what builds the different responses to the research question.
Stage 6: Analytical Write Up. This stage saw the fully developed themes analyzed in terms of relation between each other and the ultimate outcome they represent. This analysis of the themes is presented in chapter 5.0 Discussion.

Following these six stages allowed for the synthesis of qualitative findings thus helping to fill the related research gap.

3.5 – Conclusion
This research made use of a systematic literature review for data collection and thematic analysis for data analysis. The systematic literature review method produced 52 articles that were analyzed through the steps of thematic analysis. These methods have adequately targeted the research gap and produced a dataset that helped to address the research question.
4.0 Findings

4.1 Introduction
This chapter presents the findings of analysing the dataset. This chapter discusses the the five themes that emerged from the coding process: Sustained Globalization, Decreased Globalization, Isolated Deglobalization, Widespread Deglobalization and Restructured Global Order. Each theme is presented in its own section that breaks down the key components.

4.2 Theme 1: Sustained Globalization
The Sustained Globalization theme questions the notion that the world is currently experiencing deglobalization. The authors’ perspectives presented under this theme argue that globalization remains the prominent process across the world and that the international structures that support it will continue. Several authors across the articles reviewed, questioned the strength of the deglobalization process, arguing that it is not strong enough to significantly overcome globalization. Thus, they argue that globalisation will continue as an unstoppable force (Kobrin, 2017).

Across the articles reviewed, four factors emerged that demonstrate globalization will continue:

- Globalization as a Force of Good
- Globalization’s Champion: China
- Debunking the Drivers of Deglobalization
- Globalization in a COVID-19 World

Globalization as a Force of Good. This factor demonstrates a collection of perspectives from across the dataset that supports the argument that globalization will remain the prominent global process on the basis that it is a vital force for the improvement of human civilization. A common perspective presented by several authors identified that globalization is a highly beneficial process. By organising national economies towards open interaction with external players, free trade agreements are created to generate open passages for the flow of goods and services. This in turn creates beneficial financial advantages for the nation and the wider world economy. As such, these advantages allow for the improvement of human existence, therefore globalization is likely to continue as players drive to ensure the benefits continue to be accessible.

For example, Paul (2021) declares that globalization has directly resulted in reducing global poverty thus empowering large sections of the world populace to ascend past absolute poverty and even minimize the practice of child labour. Kobrin (2017) points out that citizens of nations that participate in the globalization process have lower costs to consumers goods and greater variety thus enhancing overall quality of life. Contractor (2017) summarizes this point by stating:

“Globalization has produced enormous net benefits for the world: gains for consumers, hundreds of millions of additional jobs, and alleviation of mass poverty in developing
To demonstrate the breadth of the above benefits, Horner, Schindler, Haberly & Aoyama (2018) argue that the scope of these benefits has led to mass adoption of globalization in regions of developing nations which have utilised globalization as a tool to elevate their society and support economic growth:

“A striking feature of the world scene in recent years is the transformation of many developing countries into dynamic economies…doing well in economic growth and trade … they are collectively bolstering world economic growth, lifting other developing economies, reducing poverty and increasing wealth on a grand scale.” (Horner et al, 2018, p. 25)

Analysing the impact of these for developing countries, Aydin (2021) and Gupta & Kumar (2021), acknowledging them as emerging powers. These emerging powers act as beacons for their surrounding regions, helping to promote the adoption of economic reforms for market liberalisation and democratic governmental practices. Aydin (2021) provides Turkey and Mexico during the late 1990’s and early 2000’s as examples and states the importance of globalization for these developing nations:

“A number of emerging middle powers have benefited from the international environment of this era and risen to prominence, having in the previous decade launched democratizing and market reforms anchored to regional and international organization… and promoting democratic and market economy norms in their neighbourhoods.” (Aydin, 2021, pp. 1377-1378)

A number of the authors draw attention to the more recent benefits of globalization for developing countries by investigating the region of South East Asia. These nations have been able to participate in international activities thanks to China acting as an aforementioned beacon of globalization. This has made the South East Asia region one of the largest advocators of continued globalization in recent years (Horner et al, 2018). Horner, Schindler, Haberly & Aoyama (2018) have observed a flip in which nations from developing regions have become the main regions in which globalization is welcomed and are willing to ensure its continuation. These authors report that families of these developing regions believe that their children and their people will be better off in the future because of globalization:

“…people in North America, Europe and the Middle East tend to believe that their children will have worse lives than they have, while the opposite is the case for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America.” (Horner et al, 2018, p. 27)

Reaffirming the worldwide impacts of globalization, Hayes & Weber (2021) provide an analysis on how globalization has positively impacted human existence around the globe and not just in developing nations by concluding that:
“…globalization has been good for human security in that it has strengthened international organizations such as the UN, the WHO and the International Criminal Court, and has given rise to norms and social movements designed to protect human lives and improve the quality of life.” (Hayes & Weber, 2021, p. 1473)

Collectively these authors have demonstrated the factor: **Globalization as a Force of Good** by reporting how impactful globalization is for ensuring economic development and the improvement of societal life across the world thus helping to lay the principal for why it will continue. Many authors then turn to demonstrating the practical activities as to why globalization will continue.

**Globalization’s Champion: China.** The majority of authors perceive China as the new champion of globalization and thus this factor presents a series of reasons as to why globalization will be sustained due to the actions of this champion. As Horner, Schindler, Haberly & Aoyama (2018) state:

“In a remarkable twist, China has now put itself forward as a leader of economic globalisation.” (Horner et al, 2018, p. 23)

As the new champion of globalization, the nation has plans for ensuring the continuation of globalization. Tian, Xu, Yu, & Zhu (2018) highlight China’s plans for furthering the globalization phenomenon by analysing the nations new free trade port campaign which further reduces the barriers to conducting international business with China. The goal of these free trade ports is to position China as not only the hub for manufacturing but also the hub for connective exports by giving greater access to the markets of China and thus consolidating the nation with the surrounding region as a network of transportation. Tian, Xu, Yu & Zhu (2018) acknowledge the existence of some deglobalization factors but ultimately view these as conquerable challenges by stating:

“Although the sluggish external demand and intensifying trade protectionism of Western countries has cast a shadow on China’s growth momentum, the path for economic reform is clear. First, China should continue to open its domestic markets to increase the volume of trade. Second, China needs to promote industrial transformation to maintain competitiveness in the global economy. An ideal way to kill two birds with one stone would be to establish free trade ports in Chinese mainland.” (Tian et al, 2018, p. 63)

Alongside the Free Trade Port plan, the Belt and Road Initiative is ensuring globalization sustains through the future. Owen (2021) supports this view of China as the new champion by acknowledging the importance of the Belt and Road Initiative for creating deeper integration:

“…China is building a narrative of benevolence around the BRI, depicting it not as the bid for empire perceived by suspicious foreigners, but as an immense goodwill plan to develop economies and bring people together for the benefit of all.” (Owen, 2021, p. 1429)

With these economic projects, several authors believe that China is positioned to play an active and central role in sustaining the globalization phenomenon. Many authors believe the cross-national impacts of China’s important role as the champion of globalization will allow for greater flow of
goods, services and capital as means to sustain the spread of globalization (Horner et al, 2018). With the view of the benefits of globalization and the plans to continue it established, the authors turned to disproving the notion that any negatives of globalization were powerful enough to warrant a dramatic anti-globalization movement.

**Debunking the Drivers of Deglobalization.** This factor presents how several authors deconstruct the trends, issues and developments associated with deglobalization thus eliminating the possibility of a deglobalized world as a future pathway, leaving only globalization to continue. O'Rourke (2019) provides this statement that summarises the state the world is in:

“…it is inaccurate to suggest that the world has, to date, experienced extensive deglobalization.” (O'Rourke, 2019, p. 360)

Contractor (2017), Livesey (2018), Swenson & Woo (2019) address the issues driving deglobalization. One of the most commonly identified issue, is the loss of jobs that happens when companies engage in offshoring. These authors disagree that globalization is to blame for this by indicating that job loss from globalization is part of a trade paradigm in which jobs lost in one nation are gained in another nation thus overall the unemployment of the world continues to decline. Contractor (2017) strengthens this defence of globalization by highlighting that advancements in technological and automation are the ultimate ‘job killer’:

“For every one US job lost through international trade (1980–2016), informed analysts, such as the Wharton School, conclude that three or four jobs have been lost because of automation, robotics, information technology, and other productivity boosters.” (Contractor, 2017, p. 170)

Several authors continue the defence of globalization by investigating other commonly identified issues. One such issue identified is the inequality brought about by the disproportional distribution of the gains from globalization. Horner, Schindler, Haberly & Aoyama (2018) do not attribute this issue to be the fault of globalization but instead the fault of national governments whose ineffective attempts to enforce tax schemes and limit the transfer of knowledge across borders has created globalization ‘losers’. These authors conclude that it is not the failings of the globalization phenomenon that results in disadvantaged citizens but the failings of national leaders, governments and global institutions. These groups have wrongly positioned themselves in the globalization system and have attempted to participate without the necessary societal-protection that allow other nations to fully enjoy the benefits of globalization. Horner, Schindler, Haberly & Aoyama (2018) offer this statement to demonstrate how globalization might be falsely blamed:

“National policy choices around taxation and transfers have played key roles in shaping inequality patterns within countries (Ravallion, 2017). In such a context, ‘globalisation’ can be deployed as a scapegoat, in some instances invoked by cunning governments invoking external blame for internally generated economic problems.” (Horner et al, 2018, p. 28)
In reference to nations that fully enjoy globalization, Luo (2020) and Butzbach (2020) analyse the nations of Denmark and Sweden to demonstrate that when participated in correctly, globalization is a positive force and its future presence is ensured. Luo (2020) identifies that these nations position their policy making forums to achieve greater levels of social protection through education, financial support programs and health initiatives. Luo (2020) and Butzbach (2020) present these nations as prime examples for other nations, showing that it is possible to engage in globalization whilst minimising negative societal impacts. Tian, Xu, Yu, & Zhu (2018) view the Chinese joint-venture requirement that pairs international firms with national firms as another method for minimizing long-term negative impacts. Luo (2020) demonstrates that the world doesn’t need to succumb to protectionist agendas to safely operate in a globalized world by stating:

“The Danish formula highlighted a simple fact that policies related directly to personal development, such as education, health, and labor market policies, were the most critical ones as they could address economic growth and inequality simultaneously. They constituted the organic body of producing an inclusive economy… Yet, the Danish formula of inclusive capitalism has overcome such a dichotomy and provided a responsible answer to economic inequality other than trade protectionism and populist nationalism.” (Luo, 2020, p.152)

Contractor (2017) strongly condemns the nationalistic political agendas that Luo (2020) alludes to. Contractor (2017) views them as a destructive force that seek to break down the well-established channels for international cooperation. Contractor (2017) breaks down the characteristics of a nationalistic leader to demonstrate the anti-cooperation world view they hold:

“Sharing information and disclosure are seen as forms of weakness, giving needless advantage to others. Secrecy is a desirable norm… Life and work to him are an endless series of “mano a mano” negotiations in which one party wins and the opponent loses. Maneuver, coverness, and psychological tactics are seen as important ways to get ahead in this world view that emphasizes a “me first” or “my country first and the rest be damned” mentality.” (Contractor, 2017, p. 179)

Contractor (2017) then alters their perspective from ‘Globalization WILL continue’ to a ‘Globalization SHOULD BE continued’. Arguing that the world needs a new class of leader to arise in order to bolster positive international interaction. This type of leader, Contractor (2017) entitles as the Globalist leader, stands against the rising trends of deglobalization by promoting global connectedness through win-win deals, humanitarian consciousness and the reinforcement of platforms that enable communication. Contractor (2017) illustrates the traits of this globalist leader to show how globalization could be sustained through effective leadership, stating:

“The globalist leader, on the other hand, recognizes her apex role differently, knowing that a global economy and civilization require cooperation and assent from other countries, as well as from her own organization and citizens. S/he sees her/himself as a facilitator of interactive and interdependent processes, a catalyst of cooperation across organization levels in her own government, as well as inter-organizational cooperation at the international level.” (Contractor, 2017, p. 179)
Contractor (2017) provides this resounding acknowledgement of the world situation that shows although some regions questioning the future of globalization these are overcome by those regions who remain active and powerful promoters of the phenomenon thus securing globalization’s continuation:

“Is globalization in retreat? The answer is a reasonably strong ‘no,’ especially if the view is from an emerging-nation context rather than the West. While America and parts of Europe are in a temporary bout of introspection, developing nations are optimistically forging ahead.” (Contractor, 2017, p. 175)

In this factor authors debunk various aspects of deglobalization. By separating the globalization system from the failings of nations and leaders as well demonstrating that deglobalization is not powerful enough to truly have any global level impact it can be concluded that globalization will continue. A number of authors then orientate themselves towards acknowledging the current global situation and link it to a future of sustained globalization.

**Globalization in a COVID-19 World.** With the world currently experiencing great financial and health disasters due to the COVID-19 pandemic this factor demonstrates how some authors view these challenging times as an opportunity for greater levels of globalization that will promote the phenomenon’s continuation into the future.

Branicki (2021) argues that if the world wishes to overcome the current setbacks of the pandemic and any future unforeseen setbacks then more globalization is needed. Branicki (2021) demonstrates that the interconnectedness of globalization promotes international cooperation and that is exactly what the world needs to overcome these current challenges, by stating:

“… a crisis like COVID-19 could be interpreted as demonstrating the need for global cooperation and coordination in helping global society and economy to overcome a common threat. Rather than illuminating the vulnerabilities of the global economic system, events like COVID-19 underscore the importance of deeper and better collaboration…” (Branicki, 2021, p. 243)

To compliment this principle that globalization is needed to overcome issues, Williamson (2021) demonstrates the resilience of the globalization system during the COVID-19 pandemic:

“The fact that trade volumes fell much less than expected and then began to rebound quickly reflects the fact that the globally interconnected economy helped in dealing with the corona epidemic. Vital raw materials, such as testing reagents, have moved across borders to where they were in short supply. Personal protective equipment and even ventilators from across the globe helped to alleviate shortages in many of the worst-hit countries.” (Williamson, 2021, pp. 29-30)
Buildings on the importance of globalization in crisis situations Prashantham (2018) and Kornprobst (2021) argue that globalization is vital for solving problems by giving opportunities to new enterprises. Prashantham (2018) presents the concept of social entrepreneurs as a product of globalization. This type of firm specifically targets social issues with their innovative products in the areas of healthcare access for rural locations, water and filtration systems for regions that lack basic necessities and programs for enhancing employability. Prashantham (2018) highlights globalization as a problem-solving engine by stating:

“Globalization facilitates social entrepreneurship often fostered by international civil society and multilateral organizations. Thus, while globalization is sometimes viewed as being part of the problem by creating negative externalities, it can also, in theory, be part of the solution.” (Prashantham, 2018, p. 5)

These authors argue that globalization is likely to continue out of necessity for surviving such dangerous times. The creative problem-solving capabilities of globalization present by Prashantham (2018) and resistance to global shocks that Williamson (2021) highlights are crucial traits needed in a world calling for greater levels of globalization shown by Branicki (2021). This factor shows that in a world of great challenges globalization should be and will be present to overcome them.

**Sustained Globalization: Conclusion**

Collectively, this group of authors have shown active support for the globalization process and demonstrate that any failings, as well as the resulting consequences, are not inherent characteristics of globalization but are the failings of the global leaders, international institutions and participating economies who struggle to correctly engage in the globalization system. The deglobalization movement is believed to be misdirected and that deglobalization is not currently taking place. Even in light of the troubling times the COVID-19 pandemic presents to the world, these authors claim that more globalization is needed and will be achieved to ensure the survival of civilization as we know it. Therefore, these factors and the authors accompanying perspectives form the Sustained Globalization theme to ultimately present the view that deglobalization has not occurred and that globalization will sustain throughout the future.

### 4.3 – Theme 2: Decreased Globalization

The Decreased Globalization theme is grounded within the same argument as above, that globalization will continue into the future. However, this theme demonstrates that the crucial activities of globalization have been in a state of poor performance, thus globalization as a platform for international cooperation has been in decline since the 2008 Financial Crisis. The globalization system has struggled to return to the previous high levels of foreign direct investment or international trade, even a decade later (Tian et al, 2018). As such the Decreased Globalization theme presents the
argument that globalization will continue but in a crippled state. These four factors demonstrate the trends, issues and developments that contribute to reduced levels of international interaction:

- Geopolitical Tensions
- Technological Advancements
- COVID-19 Financial Crisis
- Point of No Return

**Geopolitical Tensions.** This factor demonstrates how the current activities of globalization have not been achieving outcomes that were previously enjoyed before the 2008 Financial Crisis. Several authors classify the years following the 2008 Financial Crisis as a period of ‘Slowbalization’ to define the existence of globalization as being in a nonoptimal state. Gupta & Kumar (2021) provide this statement to highlight the two different periods of globalization:

“The two decades after 1990 are often termed as ‘the golden age of globalization’ (D’urbino, 2019) as these years witnessed the best pace of global integration of economies, and after that, it followed the ‘era of sluggishness’ leading to slower-paced globalization or “slowbalization.” Slowbalization is characterized by two dimensions, one slower rate of globalization and second, regional, rather than global integration of economies.” (Gupta & Kumar, 2021, p. 343)

Intent on identifying the turning point of globalization into slowbalization, many of the authors agree that the origins are grounded in the 2008 Financial Crisis. For example, Horner, Schindler, Haberly & Aoyama (2018) explain that the impacts of the recession were a shock to the system that caused stagnation in crucial activities such as foreign direct investment, cross-border capital flows and global trade as a whole. Tian, Xu, Yu, & Zhu (2018) argue that these shocks have done such a high level of damage that the world has not recovered even a decade later:

“Following the financial crisis in 2008, world trade slowed tremendously and the overall international economic situation has not yet fully recovered.” (Tian et al, 2018, p. 64)

The impacts of these shocks were felt across all levels of society and government as Kobrin (2017) questions the positional strength of international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, World Bank as well as the World Trade Organization. Kobrin (2017) argues that the reduced level of international economic activity has hindered the capability of these institutes and have led to some institutes doubting the very policies they are built upon:

“Even the International Monetary Fund, one of the pillars of the international economic system, has raised concerns, asking if neoliberalism has been ‘oversold’ …” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 166)

With the above concerns growing among governing bodies, many authors believe that the failure to revitalize the international economy has escalated the tensions between nations. For example, Kobrin
(2017) recognizes that some nations see the weakened state of international cooperation as the moment to strike against the rules of the liberal international order, by stating:

“While peace among the major powers remains the rule, the situation has become more tenuous with an increasingly assertive Russia taking control of Crimea and China making territorial claims in the South China Sea.” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 166)

Such conflict has also been seen in the financial space with Swenson & Woo (2019) providing the trade war between the U.S.A and China as an example of how heightened tensions are impacting the efficiency of the international economy. They state:

“Outside the United States the ongoing U.S.–China trade war is depressing economic activity through decrease in efficiency from the tariffs and through decline in investment from uncertainty about future policy…Much larger negative effects will definitely emerge in the longer run if the trade conflict is not resolved soon.” (Swenson & Woo, 2019, p. 23)

Swenson & Woo (2019) conclude the above argument with a prediction that the damage done during this period of slowbalization will have a lasting impact, and that a return to previous globalization levels is not a future possibility by stating:

“If the United States and its trade partners were to drop the new tariffs erected in the last two years, would the global trading system return to its original state? We think that the answer is, almost certainly, no. Because faith in the rules-based multilateral system has been shaken, countries and firms will necessarily re-evaluate their policy positions and methods of serving markets…” (Swenson & Woo, 2019, p. 23)

Multiple authors have argued that due to the impact of the 2008 Financial Crisis there are lingering effects that globalization has been unable to recover from. This factor stipulates that the shocks endured during the 2008 Financial Crisis have resulted in decreased international economic activity over the past decade and when combined with heightened tensions between global powers, a return to the previous globalization format is unlikely as the needed level of international cooperation is not being achieved.

However, the reasons as to why globalization is struggling are not solely related to the 2008 Financial Crisis, some reasons are derived from technology.

**Technological Advancements.** This factor presents a technological viewpoint as to why globalization will continue but at a slower pace. Several authors acknowledge the relationship between technology and globalization, with a number of authors concluding that advancements in automation technologies will have an impact on the scope of globalization.

One such author that takes this stance is Livesey (2018). This author reports that the adoption of automation technologies is concentrated in the major manufacturing nations of the world. This could
lead to a reduction in the need to offshore production as they no longer need to access cheaper labour markets abroad, thus reducing the size and spread of global value chains. Livesey (2018) predicts that:

“…the largest share of shipments of new industrial robots is taken by Asia, with steady growth since the global financial crisis (GFC) and nearly 200,000 units shipped to Asia in 2016. This region grouping of shipments hides the concentration of automation in five countries: China, the Republic of Korea, Japan, the USA and Germany together account for three-quarters of industrial robots shipped in 2016. What is not clear is whether these installations are producing for domestic demand or for export markets. Assuming a mix, this again implies some relative reduction in trade flows between the large manufacturing nations of the world.” (Livesey, 2018, p. 182)

Advancements in automation are not the only issue that is slowing down globalization, as Livesey (2018) also argues that technological advancements in additive manufacturing (AM), such as 3D printing are reducing the importance of component manufacturing. Livesey (2018) indicates that component manufacturing accounts for over half of the global trade conducted through global value chains, and to replace this component manufacturing with AM will result in a reduction to global trade levels. Livesey (2018) draws on a report from the International Monetary Fund to make this statement about the future:

“…AM and other techniques reduce the number of components that need to be made. The growth in GVCs has led to a significant rise in trade in intermediate goods (that is, unfinished goods that are used as inputs to produce a finished product) … “Given that trade in intermediate goods is now more than two thirds of total trade, this may be problematic” (IMF, 2013). As the number of components, assemblies or unfinished goods falls, there will be a knock-on effect on the volume of trade within GVCs, implying a relative fall in trade over time.” (Livesey, 2018, p. 181)

These growing threats to the performance of globalization activities indicates that future globalization will lack the ability to return to previous output levels.

**COVID-19 Financial Crisis.** Another factor that is considerably slowing down globalization, is the current COVID-19 pandemic. This world-wide event as resulted in trade shocks to every nation. The performance of the key activities of globalization are expected to drop even lower than the levels seen during the 2008 Financial Crisis, thus the authors argue that a future of decreased globalization is likely. Brakman, Garretsen & van Witteloostuijn (2021) examine the impacts of the pandemic on globalization. These authors state:

“With international trade and transport being disrupted because of COVID-19, many global value chains have also been affected, which has been a key driver of the sharp drop in international trade that occurred from the 2nd quarter of 2020 onwards. The contraction of international trade is thought to be more significant than the trade collapse that occurred during the Great Recession of 2009–2010 in the wake of the global financial crisis…” (Brakman et al, 2021, p. 1216)
These authors continue their assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on globalization by acknowledging that the global shocks are likely to result in nations becoming hesitant towards international operations and will seek to limit cross-national interactions to ensure economic safety. This will in turn reduce the level of globalization:

“…it is hard to escape the conclusion that the liability of foreignness will be affected by the COVID-19 crisis in the foreseeable future. More specifically, the liability of foreignness will, ceteris paribus, probably increase, which will place downward pressure on the globalization process of production, as firms (and governments) will attribute greater value on geographically closer and more reliable production processes…” (Brakman et al, 2021, p. 1219)

Overall, the impacts of COVID-19 resemble a similar pattern to the 2008 Financial Crisis, however these impacts are expected to be at a much greater level of disruption. This factor demonstrates that such a global shock will constrain globalization’s ability to perform throughout the future.

In view of the factors presented thus far under the Decreased Globalization theme, it would be a fair assessment to state that globalization couldn’t possibly survive such challenges. However, the final factor of this theme demonstrates that these shocks cannot cross into the consideration of deglobalization as a future as certain barriers prevent the undoing of globalization.

**Point of No Return.** The last three decades have witnessed amazing advancements in the field of communication technologies, transportation and manufacturing. These advances have changed the way the global economic players interact with each other. The shifting of business capabilities and knowledge across international value chains is driven by hubs of innovation, such as Silicon Valley, which drive the world towards more efficient ways of operating (Contractor, 2017). These advancements have been implemented with such depth and breadth that the world has reached a point of no return from globalization.

Livesey (2018) highlights that globalization as reached this point of no return by providing the words of President Xi Jinping who leads the modern champion of globalization, China:

“Whether you like it or not, the global economy is the big ocean that you cannot escape from” (Livesey, 2018, p. 179).

Furthermore, despite the setbacks demonstrated by the previous key factors, the world cannot deglobalize and thus globalization is a certainty even in a slowed state. Kobrin (2017) demonstrates this situation by saying:

“… the dramatic changes in technology and their impacts on space, time, and place rendered the very idea of even relatively independent national markets untenable … Late twentieth century globalization is structural and … the current integrated world economy is a conundrum from which we can neither escape nor, at least in the short run, manage effectively.” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 160)
This conundrum includes the high level of dependence between nations which has reached such a point that it would be near impossible to revert to a state of isolated and self-sustaining nations. Kobrin (2017) argues that nationalistic agendas that attempt to separate themselves from the international arena (seen in the Trump Administration and Brexit) are pointless attempts at achieving pointless goals. Although viewed as near impossible to revert to a non-internationalized state, the attempt at doing so is expected to be unbearably expensive as Kobrin (2017) states:

“…technological developments now function as a constraint limiting the range of feasible modes of organization of the world economy. The technologically driven reorganization of international production has increased the cost of devolution—a return to protected and even relatively independent national markets—to the point where it may not be politically feasible.” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 167)

Focusing on the reasons as to why it is not viable to devolve, Kobrin (2017) and Stiglitz (2017) continue this argument by demonstrating that a nation would never be able to achieve the same levels of GDP and economic growth currently experienced under globalization. Multinational firms who are crucial players of the globalization system would not be capable of recreating their value chains within their home nation. Stiglitz (2017) states that most Western nations lack the labour market capacity and technological capital needed to reorganize value chains to fit solely within a nation:

“And in this case, history matters: twenty or thirty years later, after production has shifted to China, we can’t just say, let’s bring manufacturing back to the US or Europe. We have neither the technology nor the skilled workers required. (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 133)

Complimenting this notion of inability is Kobrin (2017), who states it would be too costly to reorganize the international economy into separate individual sections:

“Given differences in context, specialization, path dependence and scale economies, suppliers have developed specialized capabilities that would be extremely difficult and costly to replicate in any single country.” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 167)

These authors have demonstrated within this factor that the notion of breaking down the world economy is neither viable nor perhaps even possible. This factor acts as the reason that prevents the decreasing levels of globalization from turning into deglobalization and concludes that globalization will continue as there is no alternative.

**Decreased Globalization: Conclusion**

With a downward trend in performance originating from the 2008 Financial Crisis, that is expected to get worse due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Technological advancements that threaten the advantages of engaging in international business and an overall weakened drive towards international cooperation indicate globalization is in a difficult position. However, the long-term adoption of globalization has
led to a reconfiguration of the world economic structure. As such a point of no return has been reached and it is now too impractical to attempt to reverse globalization. The Decreased Globalization theme represents this situation by arguing that globalization at a slower pace will continue as it is not viable to deglobalize.

4.4 – Theme 3: Isolated Deglobalization

The Isolated Deglobalization theme presents the argument that the mounting backlash against globalization has reached a critical point that sees the factors related to deglobalization manifesting with significant impact throughout the world. Prime examples of this are the Trump Administration and Brexit, which prove that anti-globalization sentiment has reached the upper levels of global politics. However, the keyword ‘Isolated’ is used purposefully to indicate that although deglobalization is very much a reality, it cannot be considered to be widespread as the presence of certain limiting factors prevent deglobalization from fully encapsulating the world. This theme presents four factors that demonstrate the relationship between the drivers of deglobalization and their limitations:

- False Promises of Globalization
- Mounting Backlash
- Rising Nationalism
- Regional Limitations

**False Promises of Globalization.** This factor demonstrates that globalization is not a force of all good and all beneficial. In truth the globalization phenomenon has a number of weaknesses and failings that have disadvantaged groups of people around the world. This factor exposes the promises made about globalization that have not been fulfilled.

Stiglitz (2017) argues that the open market liberalisation during the second half of the 1900’s was predicated on the notion that globalization is a ‘win-win’ formula. However, in reality it has become clear that globalization creates winners and losers. The assumption that globalization would enhance all nations and all people who engage in globalization activities has ultimately been proven false. Stiglitz (2017) draws attention to this by stating:

“For the workers in America and Europe who’ve seen their incomes stagnate for a quarter of a century, it may be little comfort to know that on the other side of the world, many people have never seen it so good. Indeed, the contrast is likely to fuel the view that the gains of those elsewhere have been at their expense. It will reinforce a zero-sum view of the world, where one country’s gain is another’s loss” (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 134)

Built on this assumption that globalization would benefit all, it was wrongly promoted across the world. Stiglitz (2017) continues his argument by demonstrating that the possibility for all to benefit from globalization does not effectively translate into reality by stating:
“Trade liberalization is thus supposed to be about increasing GDP. With higher national income, in principle, everyone could be better off. There were, however, two problems with even this story of the benefits of globalization… the fact that everyone could be made better off doesn’t mean that they would be better off.” (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 132)

From this debunking of the assumptions of globalization, Stiglitz (2017) concludes that:

“Advocates of globalization overestimated its benefits and underestimated its costs—especially the costs to the standards of living of those in advanced countries with limited skills.” (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 132)

A number of authors then examine the assumptions of globalization that have resulted in serious disadvantages for nations and their people. For example, Meyer (2017) argues that a crucial promise of globalization that any losers would be compensated by the winners has never been effectively fulfilled. The concept that those disadvantaged by globalization would receive support and compensation from those that benefitted greatly from globalization does not translate into a real-world practice. Meyer (2017) states that this assumption is not easily executed:

“In theory, those who gain from trade liberalization (e.g. buyers of cheap imported textiles) would pay a small compensation to those employed in the sector losing comparative advantage (e.g. displaced textile workers). Hence, theoretically, fine-tuning national regulations should ensure that everyone can benefit from globalization (Bhagwati, 2004; Rajan and Zingales, 2003). Yet in practice, it is difficult to design policies that remedy the negative side effect of free trade on people with industry-specific qualifications or with low skills.” (Meyer, 2017, p. 81)

This assumption that the winners would compensate the losers is not only a problem of policy design however, as Stiglitz (2017) argues that those who benefit from globalization did not and do not align their goals or mindset towards creating effective compensation. Stiglitz (2017) states that effective compensation was not a normal practice of globalization, as it was promised by the globalization advocates and politicians, by stating:

“When globalization worked well, the winners gained enough that they could compensate the losers so that everyone could be better off. But the theory said that they could compensate the losers, not that they would. And typically, they didn’t.” (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 134)

With the growing realization that globalization is not as purely good as it was promoted to be, many authors investigate how globalization itself generates the very threat of deglobalization it stands against. Della Posta (2021) combines the impacts of the above failures with the scope of hyper-globalization to argue that as the world increases the levels of globalization, the levels of negative social impact also increase:

“It is possible to claim, then, that the larger the level reached by globalization, the larger the social costs that are associated with it, as represented at least by immigration, economic inequality and unemployment of unskilled workers…” (Della Posta, 2021, p. 105)
This greater level of social costs resulted in the formation of an anti-globalization movement. Several authors then link globalization directly to the trends of deglobalization, claiming that globalization and the failure to deliver the promised outcomes results in driving deglobalization. For example, Lobell & Ernstsen (2021) state:

“Globalization and the export of the liberal order… contribute to economic nationalism, stagnation and fiscal crisis, the return of populism and populist movements, and toxic and partisan polarization at home.” (Lobell & Ernstsen, 2021, p. 1492)

To demonstrate specificity in the above point, Mansfield, Milner & Rudra (2021) identify a well-known activity of globalization, which is the offshoring of production to China, is a direct cause of growing anti-globalization ideals. These authors state:

“Much of this research shows that the “China shock”—that is, the surge of Chinese imports into advanced industrial countries after its accession to the WTO in 2001—has had key political implications, including increasing popular support for extreme right-wing parties and for Brexit…” (Mansfield et al, 2021, p. 2274)

This factor reveals globalization is not the tool for collective improvement it was promised and promoted to be. The authors shown in this factor have argued that in reality the weaknesses, failings and negatives of the globalization process have directly disadvantaged portions of society and thus creates deglobalization.

**Mounting Backlash.** This factor examines how the failures to deliver the promises of globalization have resulted in backlash against the phenomenon and manifesting as an anti-globalization movement. Those who have been disadvantaged by globalization have become known as the losers of globalization. Meyer (2017) initially identifies the losers as:

“…people who perceive themselves, subjectively or objectively, as deprived due to the existing, economic, institutional or political structures associated with globalization.” (Meyer, 2017, p. 79)

Seeking deeper clarification, Meyer (2017) continues his identification of the losers and argues that there are two groups that formulate the losers of globalization. Each has been disadvantaged by globalization because of their skillset. Meyer (2017) states:

“First, many people develop specialized skills that are not transferable across sectors of industry. When entire industries or professions decline because changing comparative advantages and/or trade barriers make them uncompetitive, then some of these people may not be able to acquire new skills that enable them to earn similar incomes as before (a special concern for older workers). Second, low-skilled workers in advanced economies appear to lose out.” (Meyer, 2017, p. 81)

With the losers identified, several authors argue at to what impact these losers are having on globalization. It is agreed by a large number of authors that the number of losers who form the greater
anti-globalization movement has reached a point where they can no longer be ignored. These losers of globalization support policies that undermine international interaction. For example, Steiner & Harms (2021) capture this idea by stating:

“Individuals negatively affected by globalization in terms of low-cost import competition view globalization in general [are] more critical, become more attached to the nation and supportive of isolationist stances.” (Steiner & Harms, 2021, p. 15)

The losers and the globalization backlash that they promote continues to grow as the inequalities experienced between the winners and the losers continue to remain unaddressed. The losers have mobilized their backlash against globalization by demonstrating support for nationalist and protectionist agendas. Meyer (2017) notes that this group may not represent a large portion of the population but they do have the ability to instigate change:

“Many of us may have focused on average benefits and not paid sufficient attention to the relative losers, who (arguably) are a minority but not a powerless minority.” (Meyer, 2017, p. 84)

This factor has indicated that globalization failures have resulted in a group of people that stand to undo globalization. The group is growing in size as well as power and has reached a point where they impact the result of government elections and policy making.

**Rising Nationalism.** This factor highlights the growing trend within global politics that is resulting in deglobalization taking root in certain nations. Nationalism, populism and protectionism all represent the same anti-international ideals that seek to break down international interactions.

Many of the authors examined the varying avenues through which nationalism can rise to power. Almost all agree that the support for nationalism is rooted in the losers of globalization. For example, Pástor & Veronesi (2021) linked the weaknesses of globalization, which generates the losers, to the growing support of nationalistic agendas by stating:

“Our model predicts that support for populism should be stronger in the country with higher inequality, more financial development, and a lower trade balance.” (Pástor & Veronesi, 2021, p. 2860)

When factoring in the growing globalization backlash due to the growing power of the losers, the above concept can be proven and it can be said with confidence that nationalism is on the rise. Mansfield, Milner & Rudra (2021) observe that:

“In fact, based on their estimates, over two-thirds more of these protectionist policies were recorded in 2018 and 2019 than in any previous year over the past decade.” (Mansfield et al, 2021, p. 2271)
Highlighting more specific examples of this growing nationalism many of the authors provide insights on the Trump Administration and Brexit. These events demonstrate that factors driving deglobalization have begun to present themselves nationwide. The Trump Administration and Brexit share similar goals in that they limit international interactions to bolster home economic activity as well as promoting national sovereignty. For example, Butzbach, Fuller & Schnyder (2020) presents this assessment as to how nationalist agendas maintain a national-centric economy that limits international interaction:

“Firstly, protectionist trade policies reduce competitive pressures on those firms who would otherwise have to compete with cheaper imported goods. This reduces cost pressure on the firm, which in turn reduces their incentives to relocate to low-wage developing economies.” (Butzbach et al, 2020, 81)

Many authors believe that the Trump Administration and Brexit is accelerating the growing power of nationalist parties in other nations. However, these others nations have not yet fully experienced leadership under a nationalistic agenda as there are certain barriers that prevent their success. This identifies the Trump Administration and Brexit as unique, isolated examples. This concept is presented in the Regional Limitations part of this section.

The drive to centralize focus on a nation’s internal economy instead of the international economy is being promoted as a way to provide security in a politically volatile international arena. This breaking down of the international cooperation is the very definition of deglobalization with many of the authors recognizing the spread of nationalist sentiment across the world, of which Della Posta (2021) states:

“Populist, sovereigntist and neo-nationalist political leaders and movements are also spreading more and more both in Europe and across the world in order to limit the inflow of immigrants and favor anything national at the expenses of anything foreign.” (Della Posta, 2021, p. 102)

However, a very important assessment is made by Della Posta (2021) and Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammer (2021) in regards to the spread of nationalistic agendas. They note the COVID-19 pandemic as a factor for increasing the presence of protectionist policies, even within nations that do not align with nationalist leadership. This is because the shocks of COVID-19 to the national economies have made governments more aware of the issues associated with such high levels of international interdependence. Governments have been deploying protectionist policies of varying extremity in the name of economic recovery. The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to make nationalistic agendas far more impactful in the international arena as Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammer (2021) explain:

“…COVID-19 has accelerated trends towards protectionism that have emerged in the global economy in the past 5 years. This is especially evident in relation to trade and the tariff and
non-tariff barriers that have emerged, with some coverage attributing poor preparedness for COVID-19 to the high tariffs and export restrictions on some products … However, it is also evident in relation to uncooperative trade policies in relation to a number of products, including food, that has the potential to exacerbate the direct impacts of COVID-19 on global welfare…” (Branicki et al, 2021, p. 236)

With Della Posta (2021) offering a similar examination:

“Populist governments—whose main declared objective is to reduce the degree of openness of their countries—are also getting elected: a ‘divorce’ from globalization seems to be taking place… and the COVID-19 pandemics, if anything, can only make the situation worse.”

(Della Posta, 2021, p. 104)

This factor has demonstrated that the rising nationalism in global politics poses a serious threat to international cooperation and globalization as a whole. As support for ‘My Nation First’ grows and the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbates the feeling of insecurity nationalism is likely to contribute considerably to deglobalizing the world.

**Regional Limitations.** This factor acts as a critique to the previous key factor, Rising Nationalism. This factor provides the argument of several authors who believe that the incidents that exemplifier deglobalization such as the Trump Administration and Brexit are unique situations that do not reflect a greater trend, thus where deglobalization does present itself with real world impact, it is only an isolated event. Furthermore, in the instances where deglobalization does occur at the national level this still does not mean that deglobalization has become widespread, as standing counter to the nationalistic ideals are the countries in support of globalization, who actively pursue the furtherment of the globalization process.

The nations that are still in favour of widening the spread of globalization stand against those nations that are in favour of retracting globalization. Several authors note that the globalization backlash that leads to nationalistic agendas is only present in developed nations, whilst developing nations remain open and in support of globalization. Rudra, Nooruddin, & Bonifai (2021) examine this dynamic, reporting:

“At the moment, the backlash against globalization—documented and explained by the papers in this special issue—is largely limited to developed countries.” (Rudra et al, 2021, p. 2434)

Rudra, Nooruddin, & Bonifai (2021) comment on survey data to demonstrate that even with growing concerns about international interaction in developed nations, the developing nations are eager to commit themselves to globalization:

“Sharp drops in public support for trade openness also occurred in other developed nations, such as Italy and France. Yet support for economic openness remains strong in many developing countries.” (Rudra et al, 2021, p. 2417)
With the acknowledgement that globalization backlash is currently confined to the developed nations of the world, Spicer (2018) examines another major trend. Investigating the prime examples of nationalism: The Trump Administration and Brexit, Spicer (2018) identifies that these events are the only examples of nationalism being successfully played out in recent times:

“Harnessing discontent over globalisation and rising inequality, nationalist populist movements are again on the rise across rich democracies. Despite this broad wave of activity, the only cases of outright populist success among rich democracies have occurred in the USA (Trump) and UK (Brexit).” (Spicer, 2018, p. 115)

Spicer (2018) concludes that the root of this success is the style of parliament that these two nations use. The U.S.A and the U.K political systems are based on a majoritarian parliamentary structure, in which there are only two parties that formulate the government. Spicer (2018) argues that this system is inherently incapable to prevent nationalistic ideals from gaining traction. The majoritarian style dramatically misrepresents a large portion of the population. Under this circumstance, those who have been disadvantaged by globalization may wish to support policies that help to improve their home regions that have been negatively impacted due to international trade. They may wish to vote for governmental support programs however since the political representation is so drastically polarized they are unable to vote for a middle ground approach to resolving these issues, instead casting their vote in favour of politicians like Trump who are more extreme in their approach to fixing these issues. Spicer (2018) explains this by stating:

“These mechanisms connect the USA’s and UK’s rising spatial imbalances to the outcome of Trump and Brexit. Utilising Hirschman’s (1970) ‘Exit, Voice, and Loyalty’, the imperfect representation mechanism of majoritarian electoral systems frustrates attempts to assert a ‘voice’ by dislocated workers. They face two party choices, both of which, over time having shifted their platforms to chase median voters, come to exhibit weak ideological congruence with their globalisation-related regional disparity concerns.” (Spicer, 2018, p. 124)

Simply put due the misrepresentation of the population in the parliamentary system and the polarization between the two parties, the median voter can only vote for extreme measures as the option for a more tenable middle-ground approach does not exist. This majoritarian style is not featured in many of the other nations around the world and thus the issue of misrepresentation or extreme political polarization is rare. These authors argue that factors driving deglobalization will remain but only present in select regions or nations and thus the world will not experience deglobalization as widespread but instead as isolated or confined.

**Isolated Deglobalization: Conclusion**

The Isolated-Deglobalization theme recognizes the presence of factors driving deglobalization such as the backlash against globalization which is in turn driven by job loss and unequal distribution of the
gains from international trade. This backlash has manifested itself in the upper echelons of politics within two nations. However, these deglobalizing incidents remain contained as the presence of globalization supporters stands as a counter. This theme therefore presents the argument that the world will see factors of globalization and factors of deglobalization as certain nations reject international interaction whilst other nations continue to participate in the globalization process. Despite the containment of deglobalization to susceptible nations, the presence of deglobalization even in an isolated format still presents challenges for the global economy and international cooperation.

4.5 – Theme 4: Widespread Deglobalization

The Widespread Deglobalization theme builds upon the factors presented in the Isolated Deglobalization theme. In some cases, the factors driving deglobalization are seen as being much stronger and will have a greater level of impact that results in widespread deglobalization instead of isolated or localized deglobalization. This theme suggests that the current promoters of globalization are not powerful enough to stand against the breaking down of international cooperation. Four factors emerged that support the view that the Widespread Deglobalization is the most likely pathway of the future:

- **History Repeating**
- **Elevated Drivers of Deglobalization**
- **Failure of International Cooperation & Hegemonic Decline**
- **Deglobalization in a COVID-19 World**

**History Repeating.** Many of the authors in the dataset reflect upon the history of globalization and deglobalization to identify what the current situation may lead to. This factor gives a provocative insight that history is repeating itself as authors draw attention to the similarities between the early 1900’s and today. A handful of the authors draw connections between the 1930’s Great Depression and the 2008 Financial Crisis, linking the rise in nationalism during the 1930’s and the rising nationalism we have been experiencing during the last decade. For example, Tian, Xu, Yu, & Zhu (2018) summarise that after an economic shock the future of globalization becomes less clear:

> “However, history tells us that each time the global economy slows down dramatically or a global economic crisis erupts, the prospects for globalization become gloomy.” (Tian et al, 2018, p. 64)

The prospects for globalization continue to look dim as several authors draw parallels between today and history. For example, O’Rourke (2019) demonstrates how similar the international patterns are between the 1930’s and the 2010’s:

> “The 1930s remain the canonical example of deglobalization. That decade saw a worldwide increase in tariffs, as well as widespread resort to quotas, exchange controls, multiple
exchange rates biased against imports, and a variety of clearing arrangements. Discrimination was rife...It is true that 2018 saw the introduction of a wide range of tariffs by the U.S. administration, as well as retaliatory measures by several of its trading partners.” (O’Rourke, 2019, p. 359)

The U.S administration of course refers to the actions of former president Donald Trump. Kobrin (2017) highlights the actions of this nationalist leader helping to exemplify the repeating of historic trends:

“Donald Trump called NAFTA ‘the worst trade deal maybe ever signed,’ argued that trade pacts are no good for workers, and proposed a 20% tax on all imported goods and prohibitive tariffs on goods made abroad by U.S. firms.” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 162)

However, it is not just the actions of the U.S.A that relate to the 1930’s period of nationalism. Many nations during the 1930’s governed through nationalistic agendas and in the present day Grag (2021) identifies where nationalism is sprouting:

“The populist wing is gaining supremacy in economies as diverse as Poland, Hungary, France, U.K., and the Netherlands, spreading nationalistic, anti-immigrant, xenophobic messages across the board.” (Grag, 2021, p. 434)

With the growing concerns that the world is heading towards a state of deglobalization by drawing the connections between the past and the present, Livesey (2018) reiterates the cyclical nature of globalization and deglobalization. They suggest that we are on the verge of a great change and that our tools to assess the state of globalization may not be effective. Warning that our beliefs as a society in the continuation of globalization may be misplaced, Livesey (2018) states:

“There is no inevitability to globalisation. ‘Politicians, journalists, and market analysts have a tendency to extrapolate the immediate past into the indefinite future, and such thinking suggests that the world is irreversibly headed towards ever greater levels of economic integration. The historical record suggests the contrary’…” (Livesey, 2018, p. 179)

This factor demonstrates the growing similarities between the 1930’s period of deglobalization and the current uncertainties about globalization. The current activities of nationalist leaders and the deep backlash against globalization suggest that the world is heading towards a state of widespread deglobalization.

**Elevated Drivers of Deglobalization.** This factor demonstrates how assessments made by some authors within the dataset suggest that the trends, issues and developments driving forward deglobalization are of a greater level of impact than the previous themes would suggest. A number of the authors argue that these trends have resulted in the assurance of a deglobalized world and that due to the scale of these trends the world is not able to maneuver away from this result.
The argument that globalization has been in decline and deglobalization was rising was being made in the earlier years of the dataset, indicating how entrenched the world is on the path towards complete deglobalization. Where other authors may claim that deglobalization may only be a reality due to the shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic, Horner, Schindler, Haberly & Aoyama (2018) indicate that globalization was already in crisis:

“…globalisation appears to be in an intractable crisis. Supporters of the UK’s exit from the European Union seek to ‘take back control’ (i.e. developmental space) from Brussels, while Donald Trump’s economic ethno-nationalism has promised to put ‘America first’. Meanwhile, economic and political crises have engulfed other parts of Europe, with the IMF increasingly rescuing countries in the global North rather than the South.” (Horner et al, 2018, p. 18)

Moving to an earlier point in time, Bordo & James (2019) identify the 2008 Financial Crisis as the onset of deglobalization. These authors indicate that the economic shocks of the 2008 Financial Crisis ultimately put the globalization process into a downward spiral that cannot be recovered from and as time passes the situation only becomes more volatile against international cooperation. Bordo & James (2019) state:

“…capital flow reversals, democracy and a stable international political order cannot be reconciled with each other. This final trilemma helps to explain the phenomenon of a disintegrating world order (or deglobalization) in the aftermath of the financial crisis of 2007–8. The uncertainty about capital movements generates a pushback against both democracy and the governance mechanisms of the international system.” (Bordo & James, 2019, p. 262)

In the Isolated Deglobalization theme, the success of nationalistic agendas was found to be an isolated incident within U.S.A and U.K, however Ballard-Rosa, Malik, Rickard, & Scheve (2021) argue the expansion and the success of nationalistic agendas is much more widespread. These authors state that deglobalization is occurring as the spread of nationalistic agendas is not confined to only two nations but instead is present across much of the developed world:

“The liberal international economic order is threatened by a rising backlash against globalization across much of the developed world. The successful votes for Brexit and Donald Trump in 2016, as well as the strong performance of the far-right National Front in the 2017 French presidential elections and the March 2018 election results in Italy all represent, at least in part, a revolt against globalization…” (Ballard-Rosa et al, 2021, p. 2322)

Nationalistic agendas are not the only aspect of deglobalization that is becoming widespread as Mansfield, Milner & Rudra (2021) explain that the majority of crucial globalization activities have been in decline. These authors capture that due to this the world is expected to undergo a great disconnect. The authors state:
“Not only has trade plateaued and FDI declined, but protectionist policies are on the rise, trade liberalization has fallen, investment restrictions have increased, and the average political party has become more opposed to globalization, especially among richer countries. These trends suggest that we are experiencing a historical moment in the modern international economy.” (Mansfield et al, 2021, p. 2274)

Mansfield, Milner & Rudra (2021) conclude that impact of these negative trends has the potential to undo the globalization process, leading to a world of deglobalization:

“More generally, the globalization backlash may usher in an era in which international cooperation becomes increasingly fraught. In areas as diverse as global public goods provision, the management of great power rivalries, and global public health, as well as international economic relations, the anti-internationalist, nativist, and xenophobic rhetoric and policies that have accompanied the backlash are likely to serve as significant impediments to the cooperation and coordination between states that are needed to address global problems. The implications for the stability of the international system could be devastating.” (Mansfield et al, 2021, p. 2280)

This factor has indicated the severity of the trends, issues and developments driving deglobalization by distinguishing them as widespread instead of isolated. The authors shown in this factor argue that due to the serious nature of the drivers of deglobalization and the extended length of time the world has been experiencing them, the future is likely to result in widespread deglobalization as the world is no longer in a position to adequately resolve the issues in a timely manner.

**Failure of International Cooperation & Hegemonic Decline.** With the trends, issues and developments driving deglobalization being expected to result in a Widespread Deglobalization, some authors turn to making predictions about what the deglobalized world might look like. This factor presents the two perspectives that envision how the world will be shaped in a widespread deglobalization situation. Firstly, a view originating from the liberalism doctrine, which implies an optimistic outlook to the situation, stating that parts of the degrading international cooperation can be salvaged without the threat of military conflict. Secondly, a view from the realism doctrine that recognizes that tension between nations will be high which could result in conflict within a fragmented world. Both liberalism and realism represent two schools of thought within the field of international relations. The views that are presented from each perspective ultimately compete with one another as liberalism is centred around cooperation whilst realism is centred around conflict.

The liberalist view formulates its prediction about a future deglobalized world on the assessment of the current failing cooperation between nations. Witt (2019) examines the deglobalization force from a liberalism perspective to identify that as the international bodies that lead the globalization structure fail to fulfil their duties the world tips further towards widespread deglobalization. Witt (2019) states:
“Overall, the picture drawn by liberalism is consistent with de-globalization. International institutions appear to be weakening, and domestic political interests seem to have shifted to favour reduced interdependence.” (Witt, 2019, p. 1063)

From this assessment of the enfeebled international institutions, Witt (2019) makes the prediction that the world will undergo widespread deglobalization. In the new disconnected landscape nations will only interact with other nations that can offer solutions to home problems. The number of nations banding together will be significantly less than what has been seen for the last four decades, instead nations will conduct limited international business with a limited number of foreign nations. Witt (2019) makes this prediction:

“…liberalism suggests that deglobalization results from a combination of failing international institutions and interests shifting away from economic openness. To the extent that this change of interests is not uniform across countries – which is probably a realistic assumption – the most likely outcome is a globalization patchwork in which different pairs or groups of countries provide for varying levels of interdependence between them.” (Witt, 2019, p. 1065)

Under this patchwork globalization, large scale cooperation and interconnectedness will not be seen and instead the world will witness a high level of economic independence. The larger world economy will no longer be present, instead multiple smaller group economies will flicker in and out of existence as nations limit their international dependencies.

The realism perspective argues that the world will experience widespread deglobalization as the result of a decline in global leadership. Owen (2021) argues from the realist viewpoint, stating that the former global hegemon, U.S.A, will retreat from this role and no longer guide the international institutiond or economy. As a result of this the world economy will be left leaderless and begin to fragment. During this time China will oppose the U.S.A and attempt to claim the role of global hegemon so that it can restructure the international economic paradigm to benefit itself. This will result in a high-level of tension that will divide the world and thus break down global cooperation and interaction. Owen (2019) predicts that this clash between China who attempts claim the global hegemon role and U.S.A who wishes to prevent China from becoming the global hegemon will create a situation in which two world orders exist:

“…possible outcome of deglobalization: the emergence of two overlapping international orders, each relatively open internally but relatively closed to the other. One, a reduced version of the [Liberal International Order] LIO, would be led by the United States and Europe. The other, led by China, might be termed an authoritarian–capitalist international order (ACIO), emphasizing authoritarian government, state-led development (but also trade and investment) and state sovereignty.” (Owen, 2021, p. 1416)

The interaction between these two orders and the blocs they lead is expected to be limited but the internal economic activities within the blocs will be maintained. Owen (2021) finalizes their
prediction about a deglobalized world by relating how this situation of two rival blocs that differ in
political leadership styles and societal values, is very similar to the cold war:

“Goods, services, capital, people and ideas would continue to move back and forth between
the LIO and ACIO, but to a lower degree than they move within each order. The different
domestic models that drove this equilibrium would probably prevent global commerce and
wealth from reaching their maximum possible levels, and would produce different rules in
areas such as internet governance and human rights. The overall global order, comprising
these two international orders, might be similar to the Cold War…” (Owen, 2021, p. 1416)

In light of this prediction that widespread globalization will occur in the form of a second cold war,
Witt (2019) offers this statement as reassurance that despite the high tension between the two blocs,
nuclear fallout is unlikely. Witt (2019) states:

“The saving grace in our day and age, according to realism, is nuclear weapons. To the extent
that both sides can make a credible threat of mutually assured destruction, then under the
critical assumption of rationality, a direct military confrontation becomes unlikely.” (Witt,
2019, p. 691)

This factor has demonstrated two perspectives that envision how the deglobalized world might be
structured. Due to the likelihood of widespread deglobalization occurring this factor demonstrates the
argument that the concepts of global cooperation and global interconnectedness will no longer be a
reality, instead the world will form either a patchwork of limited cooperation or a bloc structure where
politically aligned nations cooperate but reject all outside their respective bloc.

**Deglobalization in a COVID-19 World.** The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted
globalization. Many of the authors of the dataset point to the important impact of the COVID-19
pandemic on driving deglobalization. It is expected that the current global shocks will acceleration the
current deglobalization process, as Williamson (2021) states:

“…the post-coronavirus world will see an acceleration in de-globalisation and decoupling and
that companies will substantively re-localise their supply chains…” (Williamson, 2021, p. 29)

Several authors agree that the impacts of the pandemic are likely to inflame the backlash against
globalization. Ripsman (2021) argues that global cooperation between the powerful nations of the
world is expected to decline as the pandemic has forced many nations into taking a defensive stance in
the international arena. Ripsman (2021) states:

“Moreover, in the turmoil of the current international environment, with COVID-19 ravaging
the global economy, closing international borders and reducing international travel to a
trickle, commercial liberals should expect a corresponding deterioration of Great Power
cooperation, especially given the recent assault on globalization by populists in Europe, the
United States and elsewhere.” (Ripsman, 2021, p. 1318)
This deteriorating cooperation will be visible in the international economy as key activities such as offshoring are undone. Many of the authors argue that the reshoring trend, as part of deglobalization, is likely to accelerate with more MNE operations returning to home industries with the intent to improve shock resistance. Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammar (2021) highlight this:

“…overall COVID-19 was more strongly connected to forms of crisis protectionism such as the re-shoring of manufacturing and an increase in border controls.” (Branicki et al, 2021, p. 241)

This acceleration towards deglobalization is linked with the political ideals that seek to reduce global dependence. A handful of authors argue that nationalistic agendas are likely to become even more prevalent as the economic shocks increase support among voters for a leader who can limit or fix the setbacks a nation is experiencing. Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammar (2021) highlight the acceleration of the rising nationalism by stating:

“In this view, globally significant extreme events like COVID-19 lead to a recalibration and surfacing of national interests that lead to a significant shift away from global cooperation and coordination towards protectionism and isolationism from the global economy and society.” (Branicki et al, 2021, p. 243)

This factor has indicated the acceleration effect of the COVID-19 pandemic in driving the world towards widespread deglobalization. With important trends, issues and developments affecting deglobalization expected to become more impactful, the points raised in this factor indicate that the world will struggle to maintain semblance of a functional, global society.

**Widespread Deglobalization: Conclusion**

The Widespread Deglobalization theme presents the argument that the world is likely to experience deglobalization throughout the world. A complete breakdown of global cooperation is a certainty within this argument given that the world is presenting similar markers of deglobalization that were seen during the previous period of deglobalization. The COVID-19 pandemic has inflamed anti-globalization sentiments and there will be an acceleration of deglobalization. Assuming the world enters a state of deglobalization a debate emerges on how the world might structure itself in a deglobalized form; will it be either the patchwork structure of liberalism or the bloc structure of realism?
4.6 – Theme 5: Restructured Global Order

The Restructured Global Order theme represents the argument that the current configuration of the international system will be reorganized with the intention to maintain a form of international interaction. The Restructured Global Order theme is rather unique in comparison to the previous four themes in that those themes were siloed based on their support for their respective phenomena. However, the Restructured Global Order is comprised of aspects of both globalization and deglobalization occurring simultaneously. This restructuring has multiple pathways as to how the global order could be reconfigured in the future which these two concepts demonstrate:

- **New Global Hegemon: China**
- **Targeted Deglobalization During COVID-19**

**New Global Hegemon: China.** This is based on the acknowledgement that China will become the next global hegemon and replace the U.S.A as the world leader. This idea is a variation of the realist argument presented above, with the difference being that China is recognized as having the capability to fulfill the responsibilities of the role. Many of the authors recognize the threat China poses to the current global order with a handful of authors arguing that China can and will fully replace the U.S.A. For example, Lobell & Ernstsen (2021) argue that China is rising towards a position where they can unilaterally create large scale change:

  “The rise of China as a political and economic power poses a serious challenge to the principles and institutions that have underpinned the US-led liberal international order since the end of the Second World War. Formerly ‘a rule-taker, China is increasingly becoming a rule-maker, or at least a rule-shaper’. ” (Lobell & Ernstsen, 2021, p. 1500)

Should China succeed in replacing the U.S.A as the global hegemon, many authors agree that China would adapt or replace the international systems and institutions that facilitate globalization. The current international systems and institutions are grounded in western ideological doctrines which restrict how international activities are conducted. China would restructure these systems to be more in line with the doctrines and style of their authoritarian government. Just as the current democratic/liberal international institutions have furthered the interests of the U.S.A, China’s versions would further the interests of China. Owen (2021) argues that the Chinese versions of international institutes will not seek to encourage democratic or liberal practices as these stands in opposition to the Chinese authoritarian government. Owen (2021) states:

  “The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), established by China in 2013, is officially neutral towards the political institutions of borrower states, in direct contrast to the older international financial institutions such as the World Bank and Asian Development Bank, which have used leverage to try to liberalize the political as well as the economic institutions of borrowers.” (Owen, 2021, p. 1428)
Multinational operations are being used to further China’s goal of replacing the U.S.A as global hegemon. Paul (2021) argues that large scale plans such as the Belt and Road Initiative are designed to create dependency on China in weaker nations helping to strengthen China’s support in the international arena. Paul states:

“Informal imperial control over some very weak states may be possible, if China develops such relationships of dependence with a number of fragile states. China is also unwilling to share power with other rising states, making coexistence difficult. It is apparent that China’s debt diplomacy and infrastructure-building projects under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) are partially motivated by imperial goals.” (Paul, 2021, p. 1613)

In light of this it can be concluded that China has positioned itself to claim the title of global hegemon. The nation is determined to replace the U.S.A and restructure the global order through new international rules and institutions that benefit China’s interests. Many authors agree that the new great power has remained unchallenged for too long and it is too late to prevent China from claiming the mantle of leadership. Paul (2021) summarizes these intentions by stating:

“China has used its globalization-induced wealth to improve its position and pursue the urge to replace the United States as global hegemon.” (Paul, 2021, p. 1614)

This concept demonstrates a possible pathway that the global order will be restructured with China as the new global hegemon, reorganizing the international arena. China as positioned itself through international economic integration and now the nation has become powerful enough to achieve its goal of world leadership in the near future.

**Targeted Deglobalization During COVID-19**. This concept demonstrates the global order will be restructured through targeted deglobalization for the sake of future globalization. A small number of authors argue that the world will be restructured through deglobalizing activities that allows for future international interaction.

Branicki, Sullivan -Taylor & Brammer (2021) see the COVID-19 pandemic as a event that highlights the global dependencies between nations are not sustainable. These authors argue that in times of crisis the negative impacts of previously offshoring crucial industries such as health product manufacturing results in greater costs to the nation but also to the world economy. Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammer (2021) present the idea that by deglobalizing specific sections of an economy that are crucial for crisis resistance the world would be able to enjoy a more sustainable globalization. Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammer (2021) state:

“Some deglobalization makes sense, including diversifying supply lines for critical goods. Technology also may make it easier to onshore what up to now has been offshored. There will even be times when we choose to make things in Australia that may be made more cheaply
abroad because we put social or political objectives ahead of efficiency…” (Branicki et al, 2021, p. 242)

Reshoring is the main tool for creating a more resilient nation. By encouraging critical industries to return operations to home shores a nation will be able to maintain normal economic activity levels during a crisis as well as limiting the negative impacts of global shocks. Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammer (2021) label this as selective deglobalization, stating:

“We characterize selective deglobalization as a globalization discourse the central theme of which entails a desire for a shift from the current highly-globalized state towards a less-globalized state in some specific areas of economy and society. Thus, selective deglobalization entails a simultaneous recognition of the benefits of globalization in relation to some areas of economy and society alongside disbenefits or vulnerabilities in others.” (Branicki et al, 2021, p. 243)

The use of targeted deglobalization cannot be considered as a full commitment to protectionist or nationalistic agendas. Instead, by incorporating policies that ensure the protection of critical products the nation and its trading partners would be able to enjoy the benefits of globalization in a safe/sustainable manner. Branicki, Sullivan-Taylor & Brammer (2021) develop this by stating:

“This recognition is then manifested in policies that seek to let countries “have their cake and eat it” by selectively reducing cooperation and coordination in areas such as the production of personal protective equipment, which are viewed as being essential to respond to a given crisis event.” (Branicki et al, 2021, pp. 243-244)

This concept as demonstrated a pathway through which the world order will be restructured by the use of targeted deglobalization. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the weaknesses of hyper-globalization and so this concept indicates that in order to better prepare for the next global crisis, nations will need to reorganize sections of their economy to ensure crucial products that are key in combating negative shocks remain on home shores. This will result in not only a reconfiguration of national economies but also the global economy as the rules for participating in globalization will be rewritten to ensure its own survival.

**Restructured Global Order: Conclusion**

This theme represents the argument that the global order will be the restructured. The two concepts presented argue for two pathways of how this restructuring might occur. In the first, China is expected to obtain the position of global hegemon and restructure the international arena to align with the interests of the authoritarian nation. In the second, deglobalization of crucial economic industries will be used to ensure the survival of a nation, it’s people and the wider globalization process.
4.7 – Conclusion

The five themes presented in this chapter: Sustained Globalization, Decreased Globalization, Isolated Deglobalization, Widespread Deglobalization and Restructured Global Order each represent an argument about how to best address the research question: What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016 – 2021? Each theme demonstrates alternative pathways for the future. This chapter has provided quotes to demonstrate the arguments made by the authors of the dataset as well as the factors behind those arguments, some of which are driving deglobalization. Some insights have provided as to what a more deglobalized world might look like, demonstrating that these driving factors have the potential to create a future of fragmented nations instead of a global society.
5.0 Discussion

5.1 – Introduction
This chapter builds upon the previous chapter by discussing how the themes are linked together to address the research question: What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016 – 2021? This chapter contains three sections: a discussion of the factors affecting deglobalization, an address to the research question and the contributions of this research.

The purpose of this research was to provide a systemic literature review of the academic debate on deglobalization between 2016 and 2021 in order to evaluate the trajectory of the deglobalization phenomenon. By examining the arguments made by academics on the topic of deglobalization, key information has been revealed as to which factors are the most important and impactful. This chapter continues to fulfil the purpose of this research by reflecting on the findings to present how deglobalization has been shaped by the last five years and which direction the phenomenon is heading into the future.

5.2 – Discussion of Factors
Globalization and deglobalization are two sides of the same coin, existing under a cyclical pattern. The findings demonstrated multiple arguments about where the world currently stands in this cycle with some authors claiming globalization will continue and other authors claiming deglobalization is a certainty. However, commonly the authors of this dataset form their estimations of deglobalization’s future on the basis of a single trend, issue or development. This section will demonstrate how a number of these are interacting together to affect deglobalization in ways previously unstated in the dataset analysed.

In the Background chapter the issue of job loss was identified as a key issue driving deglobalization through the creation of the losers of globalization. Furthermore, the background literature highlighted that globalization-enabled offshoring was the origin point for job loss and thus the losers of globalization. The findings of this research added to this idea in an unusual manner in which the Sustained Globalization and Decreased Globalization theme show some authors attempting to defend globalization by demonstrating that job loss is not the result of globalization but is instead the result of the adoption of automation. By holding this view, the authors attempt to shift the blame away from globalization as a means to highlight globalization as force of good and that any movement that attempts to undo globalization is an external entity with no connections to the globalization process itself. However, what has been consistently found through this research is that the majority of factors that drive deglobalization have originated from within the globalization process. This idea that globalization has been and will be its own downfall can be demonstrated by focusing on the issue of job loss caused by automation.
It remains true that automation does cause job loss as technological innovations replace the need for a human workforce but to argue that automation is causing job loss instead of globalization, as some authors have, is an inaccurate claim. As defined in the background chapter, the globalization process consists of the flow of information and capital which is important as international firms would use these channels to leverage competitive advantages. One such advantage sought after was the ability to reduce long term costs in labour as the mass offshoring trend meant more companies were flooding international labour markets, resulting in rising labour costs and difficulties in market access. To combat this, innovations in automation were being made so that a human labour force could be replaced with a robotic labour force which doesn’t have to be paid a wage. These innovations creating the automation robotics were constantly transitioning through the channels of globalization as capital was sent for the funding of research, immigrants moved taking with them vital knowledge/expertise and global supply chains were accessed to acquire raw materials for building. Thus, automation was born a product of globalization and so to claim that job loss is not caused by globalization is inaccurate as in reality, automation is directly the result of technological transfer through the globalization process.

This discussion on automation causing job loss helps to address the research question as automation is not only a product of globalization but is also spread through the channels of globalization. Many nations, including U.S.A and Japan, have begun to mass produce automation robotics for sale to international markets. This can only be done through accessing the global supply chains that globalization enabled. Robotic companies use trade routes and the global infrastructure of transportation to give access of automation technologies to nations that do not produce their own. This indicates that the established channels of globalization are pathways for the wider adoption of an item that causes job loss thus the globalization process is creating the very groups who seek to undo the phenomenon. In relation to the research question, this dynamic of automation may be likely to accelerate the deglobalization trajectory as wider access to automation becomes available thus more populations will be affected by job loss and the losers of globalization will grow in size.

Another issue highlighted in the background chapter was the wage stagnation and wealth inequality causing distrust against international integration. This research provides insights into how these issues have evolved over the last five years and how they have affected the overall trajectory of deglobalization. Some authors, within the Isolated Deglobalization theme, highlighted that the awareness of these inequalities has increased and acting as drivers of deglobalization these issues have become more impactful. This indicates that tolerance for these issues among the 99% and losers of deglobalization has decreased over time with new pressure being placed on policy making forums through the demand for ‘tax the rich’ schemes. This issue of inequality hosts a number of complex elements that will be broken down over the next series of paragraphs and their impact on the trajectory of deglobalization highlighted.
At the core of these inequality issues is the failure to fulfil promises of compensation as the findings chapter laid out thus again demonstrating that the globalization process is resulting in the issues that work against the phenomenon. It was originally promised by governments, national leaders and international institutions that those who were disadvantaged by globalization would be compensated. These compensations would come from unemployment payment schemes and retraining programs that had been funded via the winners of globalization. The premise was that winners of globalization would be effectively taxed and they would make donations as part of the concept of social enterprise. However, what has been revealed is that the winners of globalization were not effectively taxed as they would make use of offshore tax havens, lobbying against policies that affect them and funding politicians that would support them from government positions. This left the compensation programs underfunded and mismanaged, resulting in no control strategies for contain the size or power of the losers of globalization. In the last five years this has continued to remain true resulting in more losers of globalization being created and the trajectory of deglobalization showing momentum towards deglobalization.

This issue is further complicated by the introduction of the middle-class into this dynamic. As some authors of this dataset highlight, the middle-class of society is classified as being a winner of globalization. However, this classification is somewhat ill-defined as the upper-class winners of globalization enjoy increased financial income, the middle-class receive the benefits of increased variety and reduced cost in consumer products. Comparison of these benefits would suggest they are not of equal value, especially considering the rising cost of living and corporate price increases that offset improved variety or lower purchase costs. As such, the middle-class play the role of partial benefactor of globalization instead of true winner. As a partial benefactor of globalization, the middle-class does not have access to or the knowledge to use tax havens and lobbying strategies, thus they cannot avoid taxation without severe legal punishment. This makes the middle-class the group directly responsible for the compensation of the losers of globalization. This dynamic is not an optimal method to the compensation problem and as it continues to remain unresolved, dissatisfaction with globalization, as well as the governments that promote it, increases among the fastest growing group of society. This may be likely to affect the trajectory of deglobalization as a larger portion of populations around the world align in support of the undoing of globalization.

The combination of accelerating job loss, growing number of losers of globalization and the spreading discontent for globalization among the wider population is resulting in a monolith of anti-globalization sentiment. This force against globalization has become so large and powerful that they have begun to impact the world through the most important and impactful trend that drives deglobalization, nationalism. As highlighted in the background chapter, nationalism was a key aspect of the last period of deglobalization in the 1930’s and its re-emergence is likely to have widespread impact on the trajectory of deglobalization.
The rising nationalism trend has become the most salient in the last five years which the Trump Administration and the Brexit referendum exemplify. However, it is not only the U.S.A and the U.K that have experienced nationalistic agendas in the upper echelons of government. Nations such as France, Hungary and Poland have demonstrated growing popularity for nationalistic policies. Where some authors within this dataset claim that the events of Trump and Brexit are freak incidents, it has become clear that the last five years has marked a growing trend towards nationalist ideals. The effects of these nationalist governments are still being experienced even with a change in leadership within the U.S.A and the U.K. The long-term impacts of these nationalistic governments are yet to be fully realized but it is clear that they accelerate the trajectory of deglobalization as these nationalist policies directly undermine international cooperation.

The rising nationalism further effects the world situation when it is integrated with the issues of global leadership under a hegemon. In the second half of the 1900’s the world was led by U.S.A as the global hegemon who promoted the spreading of globalization under a western-centric structure. However, what has become evident in the last five years is that U.S.A is no longer the hegemon of the globalized world. The nationalist Trump Administration actively retreated from the international arena thus deepening the fragmentation of global cooperation. Economic conflict such as the Trade War between China and U.S.A was fought in the name of national sovereignty. The trade war itself is the prime example of the rising tariffs and barriers to international business the last five years has witnessed, once again drawing parallels to the 1930’s period of deglobalization. These parallels can be deepened by highlighting that the increasing economic tensions in recent years as come after the economic shock of the 2008 Financial Crisis whilst the those of the 1930’s came after the economic shock of the Great Depression. This lack of leadership in a time of high political and economic tensions demonstrate that the trajectory of deglobalization is much more likely to be on route towards widespread deglobalization.

This discussion thus far as highlighted that certain factors have been accelerating the drive towards deglobalization over the last five years. However, the last two years have had an extreme effect on the trends of deglobalization. The COVID-19 pandemic has inflamed anti-globalization practices and severely impacted any attempts to maintain globalization. The response to the COVID-19 pandemic forced physical deglobalization as global factories were shut down and borders locked up. Despite these restrictions, there are some authors within this dataset who claim that COVID-19 will result in higher levels of globalization as a necessity for overcoming these challenges and future challenges. Counter to this are the authors that argue the COVID-19 pandemic has been the final nail in the coffin, and deglobalization is highly likely in a post-COVID world. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have not been fully realized but some insight as to how COVID-19 has affected the above topics is brought to light in the following.
On the topic of global hegemony, China wishes to assume the role of global hegemon but the COVID-19 pandemic has illustrated the world is not fully trusting of Chinese leadership. Furthermore, the nation may not yet have adequate infrastructure to fulfil this responsibility. This makes the lack of leadership much more impactful on the trajectory of deglobalization as there is no replacement to the U.S.A available who may be able to shift the world away from deglobalization. The current president, Joe Biden, is making some efforts to reconnect U.S.A to the global political community but the distance created by the Trump Administration is not easily undone, especially with Biden still upholding a number of ‘Buy American’ campaigns.

The relation between the COVID-19 pandemic and the anti-globalization movement only worsens the global cooperation situation. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted that the high levels of interdependency between nations, which is characteristic of globalization, are not sustainable. The high level of interdependence between nations act as bridges for shocks, elevating the level of impact a nation experiences even when not directly affected by a shock. This can be seen in supply-chain congestion and the economic setbacks of closed borders. This highlighting of the risks associated with interdependence strengthens the arguments of the anti-globalist calling for reducing international integration and possibly inspiring new concerns in those previously unaware of globalization issues. Furthermore, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the losers of globalization inflames their ideals to undo globalization, as they have been the most vulnerable and most affected by the pandemic as mass layoffs and wage cuts continue to disadvantage them more in comparison to the winners of globalization who isolated on yachts.

This discussion has demonstrated that the last five years have had an acceleratory effect on deglobalization as the factors driving it have become more impactful and widespread.

5.3 – Addressing the Research Question
The research question: What is the trajectory of deglobalization based on academic debates between 2016 – 2021? Was aimed at investigating how the trends, issues and developments of the last five years has impacted deglobalization in terms direction and speed of the phenomenon. The above discussion demonstrated that nearly all factors have been exacerbated over the last half-decade. A number of the these are linked together creating a powerful shift towards deglobalization.

For example, the size and power of the anti-globalization movement has grown to such a point that they can now significantly affect the outcome of elections and referendums. This is due to the unresolved issues of wealth inequality, job loss and poor distribution of the benefits of globalization. This means that as an individual is disadvantaged by these issues it is not only the individual who suffers, instead the repercussions of this can be felt on an international scale. This is because the individual is no longer alone but instead part of a widespread group who can directly impact the
national leadership of a country, thus extending any concerns about globalization into the realms of upper government and the international arena where large scale change can be made.

The analysis of this research project would suggest that the trajectory of deglobalization based on the last five years is one of acceleration towards a state of deglobalization. The trends, issues and developments that drive forward deglobalization have been mounting over the last five years with little to no attempts made by government or international institutions to resolve them. As global manufacturing displays a trend that will result in more losers of globalization the group that builds the anti-globalization movement will grow and so too will the impacts of their existence on the globalization process. Several decades of failure to compensate the losers of globalization as reached a critical point where large-scale enforcement of their anti-globalist ideals is becoming visible in the international arena through nationalism and as one nation adopts a ‘My nation first’ stance other nations must assume a more defensive position in the international market to minimize the impact of trade deficits and limited access to resources. However, this outcome is not a certainty as there remain particular key events that can alter this course.

Firstly, the upcoming 2024 presidential elections in U.S.A. With the trend of rising nationalism being evaluated to be the most important as it marks the threshold where sentiment becomes practical policy, the outcome of this election is extremely important. At the time of writing this, Donald Trump as declared he will be running for president again. Should Donald Trump become president again, his notions of anti-globalization would strongly drive the world towards deglobalization as he leads the highest GDP nation away from the international arena and market. Should a candidate more open to the globalization concept, such as Biden who plans to run again, be elected it could re-inspire the nation to reclaim its role as the global hegemon and bring order back to the globalization structure.

Secondly, the current conflict in Europe poses a threat to the continuation of global cooperation. The Ukraine-Russian War of 2022 is currently a great concern to the international arena as thus far is has had serious impacts on the political and economic situation between nations. The economic costs of sanctions against Russia are being felt globally as elevated fuel prices and energy shortages negatively impact many nations. This increase in costs may continue to highlight the risks of such high dependence on other nations which could drive more anti-globalization sentiment. However, should Ukraine, backed by N.A.T.O and the west, emerge victorious in this war it could symbolize the need for global cooperation as a survival tactic. This has already been seen with Finland and Sweden rushing to join N.A.T.O when threatened by Russia. The cost of this conflict in terms of lives and livelihood may act as a lesson to reduce global tensions and seek to rectify the issues we face as a cooperative global team.

Thirdly and finally, there are still activities that drive globalization. China has continued to increase accessibility so that more nations may be able to take advantage of the manufacturing powerhouse.
This research presented the argument of one author from the dataset, that China’s Free Trade Ports would be a tool to maintain globalization. However, where these Free Trade Ports struggle to address any of the concerns of the anti-globalization movement and fails to resolve the issues that globalization creates there are other activities that may be the platform to continue globalization. One such example is the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative that involves a vast number of countries helping to improve economic integration across the globe.

5.4 – Conclusion and Contribution
The factors driving deglobalization over the last five years have greatly impacted the trajectory of deglobalization, showing an acceleration towards a state of disconnect. The authors of this dataset have argued a variety of interpretations of the how deglobalization is being directed with some arguing it is not a reality and globalization will continue, whilst others argue that the world is set on a path towards deglobalization. The interactions of the most important trends, issues and developments have been laid out above alongside the upcoming pivotal points.

This research’s key findings are that the trends, issues and developments causing deglobalization, such as wealth inequality, job loss and poor distribution of benefits have accelerated the deglobalization phenomenon over the last five years. These factors have created a powerful group who instigate large scale change through the appointment of nationalistic leaders. These leaders have become more prominent in the last five years and will continue to do so should issues of globalization remain unresolved. This research contributes to the academic literature by providing the first systematic literature review on deglobalization based on the period of 2016 to 2021. This research has given insights as to what arguments have been made within the deglobalization debate over the last five years and how these arguments interact.
6.0 Conclusion

6.1 – Introduction
This research set out to investigate what the trajectory of deglobalization is based on the academic debate between the years of 2016 and 2021. It was done through the use of a systematic literature review and thematic analysis. This research helped to fill the gap of a lack of a recent integrative systematic literature review on the deglobalization topic. Furthermore, this research has provided a unique qualitative approach to the topic which is vital for providing a holistic understanding of deglobalization.

The arguments of the authors participating in the deglobalization debate provided a series of perspectives of how the deglobalization phenomenon is being formed. The findings and discussion of this research has highlighted that the factors that drive deglobalization forward have become more impactful in the last five years. Key factors such as wage stagnations, wealth inequality and job loss have resulted in a group that stands to undo globalization. This group is inciting large-scale change through the placement of nationalist governments in the U.S.A and across Europe. The mounting backlash in the wider population is being harnessed by leaders seeking to disconnect from the globalized community. As this dynamic becomes more visible in varying nations the outcome of a world experiencing widespread deglobalization is the most likely. Should this estimation of where the trajectory of deglobalization is heading be inaccurate it is still important to remember that many of the factors that drive deglobalization originate from within the globalization process and this infers that as long as globalization exists then so too will the factors that give rise to deglobalization.

6.2 – Research Limitations
As with all research conducted there are limitation to this project. In general, this research is limited by particular choices made in that application of the methodologies used. For example, the choice to use the ABDC ranking list as a tool for quality assurance on which journal articles are acceptable, or which databases should be search affects which resources appear. Choices such as these inherently limit the opportunity for a wider selection of resource to be included in the dataset. Selections like these are useful for making a research project such as this manageable within the provide timeframe but overall can result in some perspectives and arguments being excluded.

Another limitation of this research is that it focused on the political and economic domains in relation to the factors affecting deglobalization. This focus was a necessity to remain within the boundaries of the department of international business. The focus on these two domains excluded the trends of deglobalization that are based in the cultural, societal, and technological domains. Some reference is made to these domains such as the idea of automation technologies but cannot be explored in greater depth without broadening the scope of this research project. Important activities such as immigration
could not be explored in greater detail as it is more central to the societal domain, despite its effects on politics and economies.

6.3 – Future Research
For future research there are three avenues. Firstly, continuing this style of combining multiple factors to provide more comprehensive understanding on how trends, issues and developments interact. Research needs to be done that broadens what trends are included, as this research project focused on the political-economic factors. Research conducted that incorporates societal, cultural, environmental, and technological factors would be a beneficial way of expanding the knowledge on how deglobalization is being driven.

Secondly, research that focuses primarily on the year 2022. Much has happened in this year that could have serious impacts on the globalization and deglobalization debate. Focusing on how the key events of the year 2022 have affected the direction of globalization/deglobalization could be beneficial for gauging the situation of a (de)globalized world.

The final recommendation for future research, is that research be conducted that follows the same pattern of incorporating multiple factors to determine the trajectory of a phenomenon but instead of focusing on deglobalization, it should focus on globalization. Through the use of globalization-based keywords another systematic literature review could be conducted that attempts to examine the trajectory of globalization based on information from the past five years. This research could help to either compliment or contradict the findings of this research project and provide a more complete understanding of where the world currently stands in the cycle of globalization and deglobalization.
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### Appendix 1

#### Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CODES</th>
<th>DEFINITION</th>
<th>EXAMPLE OF CODED ITEM</th>
<th>NOTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POS-IMP</td>
<td>Possibly Important. Something that stands out but does not directly fit with the other codes. This item could be useful for supporting the views presented with the other codes.</td>
<td>“Since economic globalization implies, at a minimum, that national economies are increasingly embedded in a global market, indicators of globalization would include higher levels of global trade, higher percentages of international trade as a percentage of GDP, and higher levels of global foreign direct investment (FDI).” (Ripsman, 2021, p. 1322)</td>
<td>Could be useful as it states key factors that are part of globalization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledge Slowbalization</td>
<td>A clear acknowledge that globalization is slowing down but specifically uses the term ‘slowbalization’.</td>
<td>“The two decades after 1990 are often termed as “the golden age of globalization” (D’urbino, 2019) as these years witnessed the best pace of global integration of economies, and after that, it followed the “era of sluggishness” leading to slower-paced globalization or “slowbalization.” (Gupta &amp; Kumar, 2021, p. 343)</td>
<td>Highlights two distinct phases of globalization. Aligning today’s era of globalization with a slower version.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pro-Globalization</td>
<td>Indicates the presence of globalization as a powerful and active role in the current world situation. Identifies the importance, strengths and advantages of globalization.</td>
<td>“Thus, rather than a consensus that globalisation is in crisis, leaders in East and South-East Asia appear to remain committed to enhancing economic integration.” (Horner et al, 2018, p. 23)</td>
<td>Indicates that globalization is likely to continue as the world is not entirely set on separating. Key nations in the Asian regions are willing to continue and increase globalization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decreasing Globalization</td>
<td>Indicates that the globalization force is experiencing a decline in effectiveness, efficiency and outcomes. Specifically, does not refer to this period as deglobalization.</td>
<td>“Nonetheless, trade as a proportion of overall economic exchange declined after 2008, indicating to some that economic globalization had not only peaked, but begun to reverse.” (Brawley, 2021, p. 1518)</td>
<td>Indicates that globalization in a post 2008 Financial crisis world has been in decline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflicting views</td>
<td>Indicates the confliction of views on a topic surrounding globalization or deglobalization thus resulting in an unclear conclusive view. The item counters the argument being made previously in the article.</td>
<td>“The coming-together of humankind in a global, integrated economy will likely continue—although history is replete with scenarios of human progress followed by retreat or even “dark ages.”” (Contractor, 2017, p. 181)</td>
<td>States that globalization will continue but then highlights historical elements that emphasis that globalization will continue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globalization Backlash</td>
<td>Indicates the backlash against globalization through drivers, rationales, reasonings, consequences or predictions of the anti-globalization movement.</td>
<td>“The trends in trade openness and FDI therefore seem to suggest that a backlash against economic globalization, driven at least partly by protectionist and restrictive policies, has occurred over roughly the past decade.” (Mansfield et al, 2021, p. 2269)</td>
<td>Indicates that the globalization backlash movement has reached a critical point in recent years where the presence of anti-international sentiment is having a real-world impact.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationalistic</td>
<td>Indicates a motive, action, trend, outcome, activity, cause or support for nationalism/protectionism/populism or any varieties of ‘My Nation First’ agendas.</td>
<td>“The economic dislocations reinforce and are reinforced by perceptions of a loss of national sovereignty and a fear of the other or the alien. The result has been a marked increase in xenophobia and nationalism and a rise of anti-globalization populist parties in many countries.” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 162)</td>
<td>Indicates that negative outcomes from globalization have resulted in the growing presence of nationalism and anti-globalization ideals in politics across the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Deglobalization</td>
<td>Indicates that a trend/driver/function of the deglobalization force is false/incorrect or over-exaggerated and thus is misleading/disproved.</td>
<td>“But in any event, using trade volumes alone as evidence of deglobalization is mistaken. These can rise or fall because of underlying shifts in supply or demand, unrelated to the costs of doing business across borders. If those costs do not change, and companies decide to slow or even reverse their outsourcing activities because of changing relative wages, for example, this hardly counts as “deglobalization.”” (O’Rourke, 2017, p. 359)</td>
<td>Claims that business plans and decisions to de-internationalize overseas operations cannot be claimed as deglobalization factors as they are in reality just businesses reacting to the business environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disillusioned Globalization</td>
<td>Indicates the ‘whole’ reality of globalization (not just it’s positives) by revealing its weakness, setbacks or negative outcomes.</td>
<td>“Advocates of globalization overestimated its benefits and underestimated its costs—especially the costs to the standards of living of those in advanced countries with limited skills.” (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 132)</td>
<td>Indicates that globalization was not fully understood and the long-term consequences were not yet identified. Even still, globalization was pushed forward and no the world has to deal with increased difficulties that globalization brought.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inequality</td>
<td>Indicates the presence, drivers, outcomes or reactions to the economic, political or social inequalities created by globalization.</td>
<td>“The consensual view on the impact of globalization on within-country inequality is that globalization increases inequality in most if not all nations.” (Hung, 2021, p. 353)</td>
<td>Indicates that inequality within a nation, such as the elite vs the working class, rises when engaging in globalization activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pro-Deglobalization</td>
<td>Indicates that deglobalization is a present and real force in today’s world by outright stating it or by demonstrating the drivers have reached a critical point</td>
<td>“The theoretical parsimony of realism makes it much more straightforward to illustrate how the current period of deglobalization coincides with hegemonic decline.” (Witt, 2019, p. 1063)</td>
<td>Indicates that deglobalization is occurring in tandem with the withdrawal of the current global leader the U.S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deglobalization Issues</td>
<td>Indicates problems, issues or negative outcomes that will arise from a world dominated by deglobalization.</td>
<td>“Developing countries whose economic growth is highly dependent on export trade are more vulnerable to protectionist policies in the tide of reverse globalization.” (Tian et al., 2018, p. 65)</td>
<td>States that developing countries will not be able to succeed/develop in a deglobalized world as they are so crucially dependant on international activity to advance their nation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td>A definition of a term.</td>
<td>“Globalization is commonly defined in IB as the process of increasing interdependence among nations (Chase-Dunn et al., 2000; Guille´n, 2001; Meyer, 2017; Rugman &amp; Verbeke, 2004; Verbeke, Coeurderoy, &amp; Matt, 2018). Accordingly, deglobalization represents the process of weakening interdependence among nations.” (Witt, 2019, p. 1054)</td>
<td>A definition of globalization and deglobalization in paragraph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Retreat: Globalization</td>
<td>Indicates that the world has developed through globalization to such a point or in such a manner that the world cannot deglobalize. Certain political/economical configurations or advancements in technology have marked a point of no return from globalization.</td>
<td>“…I argue that technological developments now function as a constraint limiting the range of feasible modes of organization of the world economy. The technologically driven reorganization of international production has increased the cost of devolution—a return to protected and even relatively independent national markets—to the point where it may not be politically feasible.” (Kobrin, 2017, p. 167)</td>
<td>States that due to technological advancements that reorganized the way the world interacts means that a return to national-centric countries would be near-impossible as international business operations cannot be effectively replicated solely within one nation. This would result in negative effects for national wealth, GDP, job opportunity as well as the accessibility of goods and services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Hegemony</td>
<td>Indicates the status of the world leadership role or future changes that may influence the world leadership role.</td>
<td>“China has used its globalization-induced wealth to improve its position and pursue the urge to replace the United States as global hegemon.” (Paul, 2021, p. 1614)</td>
<td>Indicates that China is utilizing its position, gained through globalization, to replace the U.S.A as global leader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restructuring</td>
<td>Indicates that a particular prediction or factor represents a restructuring of current globalization configuration. A moment/activity where deglobalization and globalization may be occurring at the same time to ensure the survival of international cooperation.</td>
<td>“Reformed reglobalization offers a feasible way to adapt the liberal order to current and future demands, as illiberal and populist forces cannot offer long-term and sustainable solutions to the societal challenges that globalization has unleashed.” (Paul, 2021, p. 1602)</td>
<td>States an alternative path for the future. Instead of deglobalizing or continue globalization in its current format, a reorganization of the system could allow for the world to be better positioned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad Future</td>
<td>Indicates that the future is perceived as being worse than current times.</td>
<td>“The upshot is that on both measures of power, the United States has been losing ground to China. For a realist, this makes conflict inevitable. In the past, this would probably have led to a global war (Allison, 2017; Gilpin, 1983). The saving grace in our day and age, according to realism, is nuclear weapons. To the extent that both sides can make a credible threat of mutually assured destruction, then under the critical assumption of rationality, a direct military confrontation becomes unlikely.” (Witt, 2019, p. 691)</td>
<td>A realist perspective that predicts a war. Claims the presence of nuclear weapons makes this war unlikely. However, (in my opinion) history as shown just how close the world can come to nuclear destruction. Seemingly the only thing that stopped it was a moment of clear rationality. Should that moment not be present the consequences would be most dire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Future</td>
<td>Indicates that the future is perceived as being better than current times.</td>
<td>“…people in North America, Europe and the Middle East tend to believe that their children will have worse lives than they have, while the opposite is the case for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America.” (Horner et al, 2018, p. 23)</td>
<td>States that developing nations in general (not all) believe globalization to have an improving effect on their lives and national circumstance. Interesting how such developing nations were generally thought of as being exploited by globalization but here they strong believers in the phenomenon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID Impact</td>
<td>Indicates an impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic on the systems/structure/factions of the world.</td>
<td>“…the European Monetary Union might face another Euro crisis in the aftermath of COVID-19, as also occurred during the financial crisis of 2008-9, with one key issue being the ability of southern European countries to repay their debts.” (Brakman et al, 2021, p. 1220)</td>
<td>Highlights that globalization interconnectedness through the European monetary operations will possibly be retreat in a post COVID-19 world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MULTICODE</td>
<td>An item that contain the presence of multiple codes. The codes present are expressed in the notes attached to each code. This code is often granted to an item that cannot be broken down and separately highlighted into the individual codes without losing the meaning or context.</td>
<td>“Thereby international trade has made people around the world better off on average. But that average hides the unequal nature of the gains from globalization. The common person (i.e. most people outside of university economics departments) does not care whether the GDP is up or down but cares about how much money they take home, how their local community is faring and whether their children have a</td>
<td>Disillusioned Globalization + Globalization Backlash + Inequality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgement that globalization is not a win-win situation it was promoted as and that the inequality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Deglobalization in terms of economic retrenchment and stricter border controls have been the most manifest outcome, and as a result the liberal order has been suffering a short-term decline, with the possibility of a deeper long-term depreciation in the post-COVID world order, exacerbated by the pandemic, if the trend is not arrested by the defenders of the liberal order. The pandemic crisis has certainly speeded up the process, although countervailing forces are also at work preventing the total collapse of the liberal order.”

(Paul, 2021, p. 1601)

Examples of Codes with Notes applied to articles:

Some economists estimate that the world GDP is at least 10 percent higher—or an additional $8.5 trillion—because of globalization. Globalization has produced enormous net benefits for the world: gains for consumers, hundreds of millions of additional jobs, and alleviation of mass poverty in developing nations.

[States the benefits of globalization and quantifies the level of impact it plays in global GDP.]
Overall, international trade and investment agreements force participating nations to share some aspects of their regulatory regime and, hence, of their national sovereignty. Although the specific concerns usually affect only specific sectors, the complexity and perceived lack of transparency generate substantive popular opposition to such agreements. It is not yet clear how COVID-19 will affect the global economy, but it is clear that significant volatility in factors affecting economic activity, society, and in relation to patterns of income distribution and mortality. Though robust analyses are not yet available, there is some evidence that pre-existing tensions and strains in the global economy and society have exacerbated some countries and some communities’ vulnerability to and experience, COVID-19 (United Nations, 2020). A large and largely critical, literature has highlighted many challenges that arise from the characteristics of late capitalism, especially as seen in liberal market economies (Amable, 2003; Collier, 2018; Schweickart, 2018). For example, many countries have seen, among other things, the reduction in state intervention in the economy and...
Appendix 2

Article List with Argument Positioning.

Spectrum of Argument: This was used to gauge where the argument within an article stands. Whether it was arguing that globalization will continue or is deglobalization would become the new norm.

Strong Pro-Globalization >> Minor Pro-Globalization >> Middle Ground << Minor Pro-Deglobalization << Strong Pro-Deglobalization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full APA Reference</th>
<th>General Recap</th>
<th>CODES</th>
<th>COVID Marker</th>
<th>Positioning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contractor, F. J. (2017). Global leadership in an era of growing nationalism, protectionism, and anti-globalization. Rutgers Business Review, 2(2). <a href="https://ssrn.com/abstract=3014655">https://ssrn.com/abstract=3014655</a></td>
<td>Strong support for globalization. Points to the factors that drive anti-globalization mentality as the fault of globalization. Declares that nationalistic leadership is not suitable for the world. Highlights that the benefits of globalization outweigh the costs/consequences of the phenomenon and thus the system should and will continue (the world is not deglobalizing).</td>
<td>SOLO CODES: Acknowledge Slowbalization = 1, Decreasing Globalization = 1, Pro-Globalization = 9, Anti-Deglobalization = 5, Conflicting views = 3, Globalization Backlash = 1, Nationalistic = 7, POS-IMP = 1</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>Strong Pro-Globalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobrin, S. J. (2017). Bricks and mortar in a borderless world: Globalization, the backlash, and the multinational enterprise. Global Strategy Journal, 7(2). 159-171.</td>
<td>Presents the idea that due to technological advancements that have foundationally changed the way the international economy operates it would be extremely difficult, expensive and ineffective to attempt to undo globalization. Globalization has come too far and thus past a point of no return. This article presents 3</td>
<td>SOLO CODES: Decreasing Globalization = 2, Pro-Globalization = 1, Definition = 3, Global Hegemony = 3, Inequality = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 5, Anti-Deglobalization = 2, Globalization Backlash = 4, Nationalistic = 7, No Retreat Globalization = 7, POS-IMP = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 3</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>Strong Pro-Globalization</td>
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<td>Predictions</td>
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<td>Predictions about what the future might look like, a deglobalized prediction, a globalized prediction and a reduced level of globalization prediction</td>
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<td>Lays down foundational information about the anti-globalization movement including the drivers, the people that support it and the reasoning behind it. Points to how globalization has been a great source of economic activity but the process is not sustainable as losers are created and national sovereignty is drained away.</td>
<td>SOLO CODES: Definition = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 1, Globalization Backlash = 9, Nationalistic = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 3, Inequality = 1, POS-IMP = 1</td>
<td>Pro-Deglobalization, Anti-Deglobalization, Restructuring</td>
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<td>Shows that globalization was wrongly promoted. The international trade operations created by enabling globalization were not fully thought out and the process as a whole created serious setbacks for the mass population both in the short term and the long term. Shows a series of principals that would be required to restructuring globalization so that it is more effective and providing benefits to the population, however still fails to create a completely loser-less outcome.</td>
<td>SOLO CODES: Pro-Deglobalization = 1, No Retreat Globalization = 1, POS-IMP = 1, Conflicted Views = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 8, Globalization Backlash = 1, Nationalistic = 1, Restructuring = 8</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>Stiglitz, J. E. (2017). The overselling of globalization. <em>Business Economics</em>, 52(3), 129-137. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1057/s11369-017-0047-z">https://doi.org/10.1057/s11369-017-0047-z</a></td>
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<td>Middle Ground</td>
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<tr>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>SOLO CODES</th>
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<th>NONE Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Horner, R., Schindler, S., Haberly, D., &amp; Aoyama, Y. (2018).</td>
<td>Globalisation, uneven development and the North–South ‘big switch’.</td>
<td>Demonstrates that there was a change in the origin of anti-globalization sentiments, previously from the left-wing with concerns about exploitation but now recently from the right-wing populists with concerns about national security. Shows some possibilities of the future, that globalization will be rejected in developed nations but supported in developing nations led by China as the new world leader. This new leadership will create a restructuring to fit the style of economic dealings that China rules over.</td>
<td>Restructuring = 4, Pro-Globalization = 7, Bad Future = 2, POS-IMP = 2, Anti-Deglobalization = 1, Definition = 1, Global Hegemony = 1, Decreasing Globalization = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 6, Globalization Backlash = 1, Good Future = 1, Inequality = 3, Nationalistic = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 5</td>
<td>Pro-Deglobalization, Global Hegemony, Disillusioned Globalization, Inequality, Pro-Globalization, Nationalistic, Globalization Backlash</td>
<td>Minor Pro-Globalization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livesey, F. (2018).</td>
<td>Unpacking the possibilities of deglobalisation.</td>
<td>A strong Pro-Deglobalization perspective. Identifies a method for acknowledging deglobalization and predicts that the world will continue to regionalize international trade thus reducing the global connectedness. Claims deglobalization can have positive boosting effects on national economies of developed nations but will hinder the ability of developing nations/economies to progress.</td>
<td>Anti-Deglobalization = 1, Decreasing Globalization = 2, Definition = 2, Deglobalization Issues = 3, Nationalistic = 1, No Retreat Globalization = 1, POS-IMP = 1, Restructuring = 2, Pro-Deglobalization = 12</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>Strong Pro-Deglobalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prashantham, S., Eranova, M., &amp; Couper, C. (2018).</td>
<td>Globalization, entrepreneurship and paradox thinking.</td>
<td>Has some pro-globalization sentiments by pointing out a social entrepreneur trend that globalization enables in Asian developing nations. This type of business is targeted towards fixing the issues of globalization.</td>
<td>Definition = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 1, Conflicting Views = 1, Pro-Globalization = 2</td>
<td>Pro-Globalization, Restructuring</td>
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<td>Pacific Journal of Management, 35(1), 1-9. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10490-017-9537-9">https://doi.org/10.1007/s10490-017-9537-9</a></td>
<td>inequalities of globalization within these developing markets, but fails to tackle the global inequalities.</td>
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<td>Spicer, J. S. (2018). Electoral systems, regional resentment and the surprising success of Anglo-American populism. Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society, 11(1), 115-141. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rsx029">https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rsx029</a></td>
<td>Heavily focused on theories from political sciences. Demonstrates interesting insight into the success of BREXIT and Trump elections. Identifies that the type of government these nations have does not effectively represent the people who will then ultimately vote for extreme measures even though they would have preferred a more moderated option. Shows that if the nations of the world fail to represent the concerns of the losers of globalization within their nation, nationalist and populist agendas will gain more success over time.</td>
<td>SOLO CODES: Nationalistic = 7, Globalization Backlash = 1, POS-IMP = 2, Pro-Deglobalization =1</td>
<td>MULTICODE: Nationalistic, Pro-Deglobalization, Disillusioned Globalization, Globalization Backlash, Restructuring</td>
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<td>Tian, W., Xu, Z., Yu, M., &amp; Zhu, H. (2018). China's Free Trade Ports: Effective Action Against the Threat of De-globalization. China &amp; World Economy, 26(4), 62-81. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/cwe.12249">https://doi.org/10.1111/cwe.12249</a></td>
<td>Strong focus on process examination and infrastructure theories but does display evidence of China's promotion of globalization and how the nation has systems to establish themselves as global leaders. However, these free port concepts fail to address with accuracy the reason western nations are lowering trade with China.</td>
<td>SOLO CODES: Global Hegemony = 2, Decreasing Globalization = 1, Deglobalization Issues = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 3, Pro-Globalization = 4</td>
<td>MULTICODE: Global Hegemony, Pro-Globalization</td>
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<td>Bordo, M., &amp; James, H. (2019).</td>
<td>The trade-offs between macroeconomics, political economy and international relations. <em>Financial history review</em>, 26(3), 247-266.</td>
<td>A rather useless article. Discussed more about the history of financial systems and monetary policy than about the current global situation. A few codes were pulled but provided no specific insights.</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Definition = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 2</td>
<td><strong>MULTICODE:</strong> Pro-Globalization, Global Hegemony</td>
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<td>Gomez Arana, A., Rowe, J., de Ruyter, A., Semmens-Wheeler, R., &amp; Hill, K. (2019).</td>
<td>Brexit:‘Revolt’against the ‘elites’ or Trojan horse for more deregulation?. <em>The Economic and Labour Relations Review</em>, 30(4), 498-512.</td>
<td>Not a very useful article. It focused on the minister history of the U.K govt more than any ties with globalization. However, did show an interesting point that somewhat disproves the idea of deglobalization in the attempt to regain sovereignty view, claiming retreat from the international arena only exposes one’s nation to other nations with similar views and as a result sovereignty will be threatened by these nations instead.</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Pro-Deglobalization = 2, Nationalistic = 1, Deglobalization Issue = 2</td>
<td><strong>MULTICODE:</strong> Nationalistic, Pro-Deglobalization</td>
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<tr>
<td>O’Rourke, K. H. (2019).</td>
<td>Economic history and contemporary challenges to globalization. <em>The Journal of Economic History</em>, 79(2), 356-382.</td>
<td>Strongly states that deglobalization is not occurring as of 2019. Strong historical focus with only a few links to modern situations. Indicates some areas where history is repeating itself but to a lesser degree, implying that we are better equipped to deal with modern issues.</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Pro-Deglobalization = 3, Definition = 1, Anti-Deglobalization = 4, Disillusioned Globalization = 1, Restructuring = 1</td>
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<td>Swenson, D. L., &amp; Woo, W. T. (2019). The politics and economics of the US-China trade war. <em>Asian Economic Papers, 18</em>(3), 1-28. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1162/asep_a_00710">https://doi.org/10.1162/asep_a_00710</a></td>
<td>Not a particularly useful article as it focuses more on the internals of the trade-war without relating to the greater global context. However, does show that this trade-war has reduced levels of growth in globalization. Shows that the WTO is failing to fulfil its tasks and needs attention in remodelling the institute.</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Disillusioned Globalization = 2, Global Hegemony = 2, POS-IMP = 3, Anti-Deglobalization = 3, Decreasing Globalization = 2, Restructuring = 1</td>
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<td>Witt, M. A. (2019). Deglobalization: Theories, predictions, and opportunities for international business research. <em>Journal of International Business Studies, 50</em>(7), 1053-1077. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1057/s41267-019-00219-7">https://doi.org/10.1057/s41267-019-00219-7</a></td>
<td>A strong Pro-deglobalization perspective. Strong predictor of deglobalization. Shows some predictions of the format that deglobalization can take such as patchwork globalization where every nation fends for themselves and only engages internationally with nations that align with similar political ideals OR a world where China takes control of the world leadership position with the restructuring of international institutes.</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Pro-Deglobalization = 12, Definition = 3, Globalization Backlash = 1, Global Hegemony = 2</td>
<td><strong>NONE</strong></td>
<td>Strong Pro-Deglobalization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Witt, M. A. (2019). China’s challenge: Geopolitics, deglobalization, and the future of Chinese business. <em>Management and Organization Review, 15</em>(4), 687-704. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1017/mor.2019.49">https://doi.org/10.1017/mor.2019.49</a></td>
<td>Pro-Deglobalization perspective. Strong pro-China perspective. Does focus on firm-level research opportunities. Great resource for understanding the Liberalist or Realist perspectives about the future. Concludes that a new type of cold war is the most likely outcome of</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Anti-Deglobalization = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 5, Global Hegemony = 1, Bad Future = 4, Globalization Backlash = 1</td>
<td><strong>NONE</strong></td>
<td>Strong Pro-Deglobalization</td>
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<td>Not a very useful resource as it was far more focused on firm-level strategies. It does present the idea that MNE will not be able to function as well as they would under globalization. Demonstrates that firms who have built their competitive advantage off technological advancements will suffer considerably in a deglobalized world as the ability to transfer tech/knowledge will be extremely limited.</td>
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<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Deglobalization Issues = 2, Nationalistic = 1</td>
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<td>NO Strong Stance</td>
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<td>Presents many concepts about how government and firms need to change in order to prevent backlash against globalization. However, what is strange is that these concepts of change are claimed to be pro-globalization but could just as easily reinforce drivers of deglobalization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Definition = 3, Pro-Deglobalization = 1, Globalization Backlash = 2, Pro-Globalization = 2, Conflicted Views = 12, Nationalistic = 1, Decreasing Globalization = 1, POS-IMP = 1</td>
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<td><strong>MULTICODE:</strong> Globalization Backlash, Pro-Deglobalization</td>
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<td>Luo, C. M. (2020). Answering economic inequality other than with populism and protectionism: the Danish formula of inclusive capitalism. <em>Asia Europe Journal</em>, 18(1), 139-155. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10308-019-00538-2">https://doi.org/10.1007/s10308-019-00538-2</a></td>
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<td>Aydin, U. (2021). Emerging middle powers and the liberal international order. <em>International Affairs</em>, 97(5), 1377-1394. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiab090">https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiab090</a></td>
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<td>Ballard-Rosa, C., Malik, M. A., Rickard, S. J., &amp; Scheve, K. (2021). The economic origins of authoritarian values: evidence from local trade shocks in the United Kingdom. <em>Comparative political studies</em>, 54(13), 2321-2353.</td>
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| SOLO CODES: Decreasing Globalization = 2, COVID Impact = 4, Restructuring = 4, Pro-Deglobalization = 1 |
| MULTICODE: Pro-Deglobalization, Pro-Globalization |

Presents the idea that globalization and deglobalization can be occurring at the same time and thus the world will see a large restructuring of the international economy and the decision making of firms/governments. The COVID pandemic has created greater risks in operating internationally and thus the reshoring and adoption of robotics may be accelerated which will result in deglobalizing labour but the new Work from Home trend means there is a greater globalization of knowledge as remote workers can now operate from anywhere. Workers in physical spaces (manufacturing) will suffer more than workers in non-physical spaces (accounting or financial services, jobs that can be done from a computer).
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<th>Author(s)</th>
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<th>SOLO MARKERS</th>
<th>MULTI CODE MARKERS</th>
<th>Middle Ground</th>
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<td>Branicki, L., Sullivan-Taylor, B., &amp; Brammer, S. (2021). Towards crisis protection (ism)? COVID-19 and selective de-globalization. <em>Critical Perspectives on International Business</em>. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1108/cpib-05-2020-0046">https://doi.org/10.1108/cpib-05-2020-0046</a></td>
<td>Shows key points about globalization, deglobalization and the idea of restructuring. Shows that COVID will act as an agent of change however that change doesn’t HAVE to be deglobalization. COVID could be a force: to create more globalization as a means to cooperate and overcome the challenges of the future, OR to deglobalize as a means to mitigate the impacts of shocks, OR to restructure thus reducing shocks but maintaining international connections on more national-first grounds.</td>
<td>COVID Impact = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 7, Definition = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 2, Nationalistic = 1, Restructuring = 3, Deglobalization Issue = 1, Pro-Globalization = 1</td>
<td>Pro-Deglobalization = 5, Nationalistic = 1, Restructuring = 2, Deglobalization Issue = 1, Pro-Globalization = 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brawley, M. R. (2021). Globalization/deglobalization: lessons from liberal monetary orders. <em>International Affairs</em>, 97(5), 1505-1520. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iia089">https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iia089</a></td>
<td>Focuses more on the history of monetary orders by discussing the pre-WW1, interwar and post WW2 periods. However, uses this historical learning to conclude that globalization is likely to continue despite the COVID setbacks.</td>
<td>Pro-Globalization = 2, Pro-Deglobalization = 1, Inequality = 1, Decreasing Globalization = 2, Globalization Backlash = 1, Nationalistic = 1</td>
<td>Pro-Globalization = 1</td>
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<td>Callaghan, C. W. (2021). Consequences of deindustrialisation for globalisation: Insights for international business. <em>International Business Review</em>, 30(3), 101804. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ibusrev.2021.101804">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ibusrev.2021.101804</a></td>
<td>A stepping stone type paper to enable other researchers. Puts forward the concept that deindustrialization (offshoring) has negative consequences for globalization. Globalization initially pursued the outsourcing method as a way to increase firms profits however it is now revealed that this has serious</td>
<td>Definition = 2, Pro-Deglobalization = 1, Globalization Backlash = 3, POS-IMP = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 2, Decreasing Globalization = 1</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>Minor Pro-Deglobalization</td>
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</table>
| Casas-Klett, T., & Li, J. (2021). Assessing the Belt and Road Initiative as a narrative: Implications for institutional change and international firm strategy. *Asia Pacific Journal of Management*, 1-17. [https://doi.org/10.1007/s10490-021-09757-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10490-021-09757-x) | Not a very useful article. Used the globalization and deglobalization key words but was more about firm level connections to the Belt and Road Initiative. | **SOLO CODES:** Pro-Deglobalization = 1, POS-IMP = 1  
**MULTICODE:** NONE | NONE | No Strong Stance |
| Coleman, K. P., & Job, B. L. (2021). How Africa and China may shape UN peacekeeping beyond the liberal international order. *International Affairs*, 97(5), 1451-1468. [https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iab113](https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iab113) | Not a useful article at all. Used globalization and deglobalization key words rarely. Discussed the challenges to the U.N peacekeeping activities instead of the politics and economics of western-centric globalization. | **SOLO CODES:** POS-IMP = 1  
**MULTICODE:** NONE | NONE | No Strong Stance |
| Della Posta, P. (2021). An analysis of the current backlash of economic globalization in a model with heterogeneous agents. *Metroeconomica*, 72(1), 101-120. [https://doi.org/10.1111/meca.12312](https://doi.org/10.1111/meca.12312) | Good at disproving the concept that globalization benefits outweigh the costs. Demonstrates that there is a point of diminishing returns where globalization created issues will begin to cost society more through the creation and support of losers and therefore shows that due to the failings of compensation programs the world is accelerating towards a deglobalized state and the only way to stop it is with a corrective measure to those compensation programs, but it may be too late. | **SOLO CODES**: Pro-Deglobalization = 4, Nationalistic = 3, Disillusioned Globalization = 2, Decreasing Globalization = 1, Inequality = 1
**MULTICODE**: Globalization Backlash, Disillusioned Globalization, Nationalistic | **SOLO MARKERS**: Nationalistic = 1
**MULTICODS MARKERS**: NONE | Strong Pro-Deglobalization |
**MULTICODE**: NONE | NONE | Strong Pro-Deglobalization |
| Geva, D., & Santos, F. G. (2021). Europe's far-right educational projects and their vision for the international order. *International Affairs*, 97(5), 1395-1414. | Shows that a new trend of globalist illiberalism is rising in European nations such as Hungary. This new political view is centred around the reinforcement of Christian values and this creates interesting ideals of | **SOLO CODES**: Restructuring = 7
**MULTICODE**: NONE | NONE | Middle Ground |
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<td>Discusses the history of India’s development through globalization. Confirms that reduced globalization is occurring and protectionism is hindering the ability of developing nations to grow.</td>
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<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Definition = 2, Acknowledge Slowbalization = 1, Nationalistic = 1, Decreasing Globalization = 2</td>
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<td><strong>MULTICODE:</strong> NONE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discusses the effects of globalization on India in terms of trade. A strong history. Express that the current slowbalization situation is making it difficult for India as globalization plays an important role in the development of these kinds of nations. States that globalization practices in India have not been global but in fact have been regional.</td>
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<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Acknowledge Slowbalization = 2, Definition = 1, Pro-Globalization = 1, POS-IMP = 1</td>
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<td>Strong technology focus. Shows that globalization created technologies result in channels for deglobalization to manifest. Social media platforms are pathways for the spread of ideals and automation is a strong threat to jobs. This paper values globalization as a force to prevent human rights violations as international institutes</td>
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<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Definition = 2, Deglobalization Issues = 2, Anti-Deglobalization = 1, Pro-Globalization = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 1</td>
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<td><strong>MULTICODE:</strong> NONE</td>
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play an important global role in observing and enforcing human rights protection thus in a deglobalized world the threat of human right violations is increased.


Demonstrated that inequality between nations is reducing but inequality within a nation is increasing. The failure of compensation programs makes the situation worse.

**SOLO CODES:** Inequality = 5, Disillusioned Globalization = 2, Pro-Globalization = 1

**MUTLICODE:** NONE


A useless article. Focused on the workings of the G-20 and G-7 groups but failed to relate it to the topic of research.

**No Codes**


A useless article. Focused on Swedish voting habits. Didn’t provide information about the current world situation.

**No Codes**

**No Strong Stance**
| DOI | Title and Authors | Summary | SOLO CODES | SOLO MARKERS | MULTICODE MARKERS
|-----|------------------|---------|------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Li, P. P., Lewin, A. Y., Witt, M. A., & Valikangas, L. (2021). De-globalization and Decoupling: A Luck of the Draw for India?. *Management and Organization Review*, 17(2), 389-393. https://doi.org/10.1017/mor.2021.28 | A short article, only 5 pages. Supports a dynamic of the restructuring concept that will see India as a replacement to the Chinese dominate developing nation. Presents the idea that USA and India pair together to cut out China from certain supply chains thus reducing the monopoly type control of China. | Restructuring = 3, Pro-Deglobalization = 1 | Neutral | Neutral
| Lobell, S. E., & Ernstsen, J. (2021). The liberal international trading order (LITO) in an era of shifting capabilities. *International Affairs*, 97(5), 1489-1504. https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiab095 | Shows the back and forth struggle between globalization and deglobalization ideals present in national politics. Highlights how the tensions and shifting power between China and the USA will have effects on a reshaped world. | Nationalistic = 2, Disillusioned Globalization = 1, Global Hegemony = 3, Pro-Deglobalization = 2, Pro-Globalization = 1, Globalization Backlash = 3 | Neutral | Neutral

Middle Ground
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<th>Mutlicode</th>
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<td>Mansfield, E. D., Milner, H. V., &amp; Rudra, N. (2021). The globalization backlash: Exploring new perspectives. <em>Comparative Political Studies</em>, 54(13), 2267-2285. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177%2F00104140211024286">https://doi.org/10.1177%2F00104140211024286</a></td>
<td>Highlights that the backlash against globalization has reached a critical point with serious implication in politics and that the world could be seeing a global retreat from international cooperation as a whole.</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Definition = 1, Globalization Backlash = 2, Decreasing Globalization = 1, Nationalistic = 2, Pro-Deglobalization = 7, Disillusioned Globalization = 1, Pro-Globalization = 1, POS-IMP = 1</td>
<td><strong>Mutlicode:</strong> NONE</td>
<td>Strong Pro-Deglobalization</td>
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<td>Obstfeld, M. (2021). The global capital market reconsidered. <em>Oxford Review of Economic Policy</em>, 37(4), 690-706. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/oxrep/grab023">https://doi.org/10.1093/oxrep/grab023</a></td>
<td>Identifies that the backlash against globalization has not been present in the dynamics of financial flows and capital. The flowing of money between borders has been less targeted by anti-globalization movements in comparison to the trade/offshoring dynamics. Identifies that the future of capital flow is more likely to continue compared to the future of trade flows IF democratic leadership styles remain in the global leader position, however should leaders like Trump make</td>
<td><strong>SOLO CODES:</strong> Disillusioned Globalization = 2, Pro-Deglobalization = 1, COVID Impact = 1, Anti-Deglobalization = 1</td>
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<td>Owen, J. M. (2021). Two emerging international orders? China and the United States. <em>International Affairs</em>, 97(5), 1415-1431. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iib111">https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iib111</a></td>
<td>Shows the realists view of deglobalization that would see a USA vs China cold war. Shows that this is a real possibility but the fact that China lacks the strength/infrastructure to hold such a leadership position means it may not come to pass. Instead China will attempt to reshape the global world order to its benefit so that it may become stronger. It will do this through positions in the UN and the operations like BRI to spread economic dependence.</td>
<td>SOLO CODES: Definition = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 6, Decreasing Globalization = 1, Pro-Globalization = 2, Global hegemony = 4, Restructuring = 1</td>
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<td>Paul, T. V.</td>
<td>Globalization, deglobalization and reglobalization: adapting liberal international order.</td>
<td><em>International Affairs</em>, 97(5), 1599-1620.</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>97</td>
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<td>Rainnie, A.</td>
<td>i4. 0, 3D printing, deglobalisation and new manufacturing clusters: The view from Australia.</td>
<td><em>The Economic and Labour Relations Review</em>, 32(1), 115-133.</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>Ripsman, N. M.</td>
<td>Globalization, deglobalization and Great Power politics.</td>
<td><em>International Affairs</em>, 97(5), 1317-1333.</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>97</td>
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</table>

Supportive of deglobalization. Breaks down why deglobalization trends and anti-globalization movements have only been seen in developed nations thus far. Concludes that it is due to the length of time exposed to globalization. Developing nations have not spent as long participating in globalization compared to developed nations and that is why they support the openness/trade ideals. Given enough time the developing nations will begin to experience the negatives and will become like current developed nations thus overall deglobalization will occur.

**SOLO CODES:** Pro-Globalization = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 2, Pro-Deglobalization = 4, Anti-Deglobalization = 1, Deglobalization Issue = 1, POS-IMP = 1, Globalization Backlash = 3

**MULTICODE:** NONE


An abstract article that doesn't provide a particular view on the debate but does provide some insight into the backlash by demonstrating that elites of industries that cannot translate advantages from globalization count as losers of globalization as well. They form a small portion of the globalization backlash group but as elites they possess greater ability to make change.

**SOLO CODES:** Globalization Backlash =2

**MULTICODE:** NONE

Steiner, N. D., & Harms, P. (2021). Trade shocks and the nationalist backlash in political attitudes: panel

Pro-deglobalization opinion by breaking down the globalization backlash. Looks at what type of situation creates the Losers that

**SOLO CODES:** Globalization Backlash = 5, Disillusioned Globalization =2

**MULTICODE:** NONE
| Source | Title | Abstract | SOLO CODES | MULTICODE | SOLO MARKERS | MULTICODE | Coding 

| Walter, S. (2021). Brexit domino? The political contagion effects of voter-endorsed withdrawals from international institutions. *Comparative Political Studies, 54*(13), 2382-2415. https://doi.org/10.1177/0010414021997169 | Demonstrates the mechanics of how retreating from international cooperation can spread between nations. Finds that it is dependent on whether the retreat has a positive outcome or a negative outcome. Positive will lead to support for other nations to leave whilst a negative outcome will lead to support for other countries to stay within the international cooperative institutes. | Pro-Deglobalization = 4, Pro-Globalization = 1 | None | Strong Pro-Deglobalization |
| Williamson, P. (2021). De-Globalisation and decoupling: Post-COVID-19 myths versus realities. *Management and Organization Review, 17*(1), 29-34. https://doi.org/10.1017/mor.2020.80 | A short article only 6 pages. Provides a pro-globalization view in relation to COVID. Argues that although COVID negatively impacted the international economy, the level of impact is far less than predicted. Shows that reshoring as a deglobalizing trend is likely to be resisted as it is expensive and not competitively advantageous. | Pro-Deglobalization = 1, Pro-Globalization = 3, Anti-Deglobalization = 2 | None | Strong Pro-Deglobalization |
| Witt, M. A., Li, P. P., Välikangas, L., & Lewin, A. Y. (2021). Deglobalization and decoupling: Game Shows how realism deglobalization is currently being witnessed as China and USA clash. Points out some links to automation as a job killer. | Pro-Globalization = 1, Anti-Deglobalization = 1, POS-IMP = 1, Disillusioned Globalization = 1, Pro-Deglobalization = 5 | None | Strong Pro-Deglobalization |
changing consequences?.
*Management and Organization Review*,
17(1), 6-15.
https://doi.org/10.1017/mor.2021.9