On The Concept of Globality

Paul Brienza

It is a common claim, in this day and age, that the world is becoming more and more 'globalized.' However, very little attention is paid to the larger consequences and implications of a globalized world. In this issue of Theoria and Praxis contributors explore the deep meanings of globality in light of the facts of economic integration, political interdependency and cultural convergence. Can we speak, for example, of national or regional economies? Is it not more appropriate and descriptive of present day reality to speak of one global economy? As recent economic happenings indicate, events experienced in one part of the world can be as quickly and strongly felt across the planet. Further, it is much more difficult to conceive of the 'rogue' or, in less declamatory terms, independent nation-state acting in defiance of a global community. Even in the realm of culture, it is clear to many that the boundaries of nation-states, or even the formerly dominant barriers of linguistic difference, are no longer sufficient to stop the progress of shared cultural meanings expressed through film, television, and social media. The combination of economic integration, political interdependency (for example, the United Nations, the World Bank, IMF, the WTO) and cultural commonality has definitely helped to bring McLuhan’s ‘global village’ one more step closer to reality.

In this issue, all of these issues are cogently explored. It is our hope that reflection, thought and insight into these issues will help humanity to both understand and manage the inevitable rise of globality.