Post two

This assignment is to reply to my classmate weekly post.

Please read this post and give me your suggestions and opinions on the topic/content of this post. I'd like the response to be at least 250 words.

Please do not critique the content, but give your thought about the topic

     Globalization is viewed differently in different international relations theories. Globalization recognizes the process of nation states working towards and adopting different forms of integration, including global communication and advancements in technology that are allowing nation states to share goods, money, and ideas globally. The different international relations theories address how this process and growing technology has and will continue to affect the nature of the international system. Wolf Martin explains how realists feel about the process of globalization and what realist think globalization is doing to the current international system. I was expecting the realist to have a more pessimistic view, but Martin acknowledges the process and explains that it is a choice made by a state. “Globalization can progress only as far as national policymakers will allow” (Martin 2001, 183). This concept is important for the reader to recognize because realists do not think that globalization is negatively impacting the system and will collapse the nation state. Instead, realists expect that through the growth of technology and transportation, new possibilities will arise that have the potential to change a state for better or worse. “Globalization is often perceived as destroying governments’ capacities to do what they want or need, particularly in the key areas of taxation, public spending for income retribution, and macroeconomic policy” (Martin 2001, 185). Globalization has the ability to affect all of these areas, but Martin explains that governments are still able to benefit from these areas even with globalization; some will even become more beneficial. Realist Wolf Martin explains that as globalization continues to grow, governments have time and the capability of making it work in their favor. Global governance is also an important part of globalization and both need to grow together in order for states to remain effective and essential (Martin 2001).

 Liberals have a different idea of how globalization affects the nations state. Liberals make the argument that globalization causes increased interaction and trade between states. For example, China and the United States created a trade agreement that allowed their relationship to prosper. Now theorists would go so far to say that China and the United States are interdependent. This interdependence also has the ability to change other aspects of nations relationships. For example, would interdependent countries be less likely to fight and more likely to talk through disagreements? In this case I would agree with liberals because I do not think interdependent states would want to jeopardize their economic stability. However, I start to disagree when liberals create the idea that interdependence, which is created by globalization, makes states less important because the global market is more important. Complex interdependence theory explains that globalization has an effect on international relations and the entire world (Keohane& Nye 1977). “Dependence means a state of being determined or significantly affected by external forces. Interdependence, most simply defined, means mutual dependence. Interdependence in world politics refers to situations characterized by reciprocal effects among countries or among actors in different countries.”(Keohane& Nye, 1977: 8)

     I find the realist argument most convincing because it does not over analyze and fear the process of globalization. I raise the question, how could interdependence from globalization cause a state to disregard all of its other interests? Liberals make an argument that fears interdependence because it will cause policy makers to favor policy that supports nation state interdependence. I don’t see interdependence as a bad thing, especially since it makes war less likely. I firmly believe that states can and will still further their interests, like spreading democracy, even if interdependence from globalization is present. For example, the United States is interdependent with China. I think the US is able to use this to its favor and eventually convince China to adopt democracy. Therefore, globalization has helped make a positive change that is not negatively impacting a states ability to be important or effective at furthering interests. I think the most important challenge of globalization will be a states need to focus on its other interests outside of globalization. For example, the US and China are interdependent, but this relationship should not stop the US from doing things that China disagrees with. Even if the United States actions threaten the relationship.

References:

Wolf, Martin. 2001. “Will the Nation-State Survive Globalization?” *Foreign Affairs* 80.1: 178- 190.

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| Krugman, Paul. “In Praise of Cheap Labor: Bad jobs at bad wages are better than no jobs at all.” *Slate Magazine,*[*http://www.slate.com/articles/business/the\_dismal\_science/1997/03/in\_praise\_of\_cheap\_labor.html*](http://www.slate.com/articles/business/the_dismal_science/1997/03/in_praise_of_cheap_labor.html)  Keohane, Robert O., and Joseph S. Nye. 1977.  *Power and Interdependence: World Politics in Transition*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co. |