To Elaine Cook Graybill and Alyson Sue McMillen
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Preface

The global financial crisis weakened the momentum toward greater globalization. Most countries continue to want the benefits of globalization while simultaneously enacting policies to diminish the costs of globalization. This has led to the emergence of a new form of globalization, gated globalization, which is characterized by more state intervention in the flow of money and goods, increased regionalization of trade, and a deeper emphasis on narrow national interests than on global cooperation. At the same time, the globalization of problems continues to erode the ability of individual governments to effectively address their citizens’ concerns, which, in turn, weakens bonds between individuals and states. This trend is reinforced by global migration and the declining significance of citizenship. Furthermore, global inequality is reducing support for globalization. These developments are underscored by growing nationalism and religious and ethnic identity, especially in Western Europe, the Middle East, Africa, eastern Ukraine, and Russia.

Global inequality is now a leading global issue. The richest 0.5 percent of the world’s population owns roughly one-third of the wealth. The globalized high-tech economy, which gives an unprecedented financial advantage to highly educated and technologically innovative people, widened the gap between the global elite and the middle class. It also undermined the strong belief in the American dream of upward mobility. The failure of many governments to effectively address inequality and high youth unemployment has triggered massive protests globally, a development aided by widespread access to communications technologies, especially social media.

Edward Snowden’s decision to leak massive amounts of information from the National Security Agency about America’s spying on its citizens, citizens of other countries, governments and their leaders, and international organizations presented unprecedented consequences for U.S. national security and foreign policy and the relationship between American government and Americans. Their trust in their government has been undermined. Close American allies such as Germany and Brazil expressed strong opposition to the monitoring of their leaders’ personal phone calls. Responding to negative global reaction, leading technology firms such as Microsoft and Google stated that the American government in its quest for absolute security had endangered individual privacy.

Social media and big data have emerged as potent forces that are diminishing the significance of national borders and profoundly influencing global politics, economics, and culture. Social media provide a global forum for mass participation, the exchange of ideas, the instant dissemination of information, and individuals to organize globally. Social media enhance the power of the global middle class, thereby promoting democracy and challenging the power of traditional institutions and ideas. Global communications technologies also facilitate the growth and severity of cybercrimes and underscore the need for greater global cybersecurity for governments, nonstate actors, and individuals.

Global food safety is an extremely important issue. Global companies process and market food grown in many different countries. It is difficult for consumers to determine where food comes from. The emergence of China as a major food exporter is heightening concerns about food safety. Apart from the impact of excessive levels of pollution on crops, China has a notorious reputation for deliberately contaminating and adulterating food. Middle-class consumers globally are concerned about genetically modified crops and are attempting to have foods containing them labeled. Eliminating drug-resistant bacteria and limiting the use of antibiotics on farms and curbing their use in medicine are priorities of the U.S. government. Companies such as McDonald’s, Costco, and Wholesale Corp. are reducing the use of meat from animals that are raised on antibiotics.

The brutal gang rape and murder of an Indian college student shocked the global community and underscored the prevalence of sexual violence against women. It also served as a catalyst for mobilizing global support to reduce sexual crimes. These efforts are reinforced by global concerns about female genital mutilation and the growing awareness in America of sexual assaults on college and university campuses and in the military. The proliferation of cybercrimes demonstrates our vulnerability to destructive forces largely beyond the individual’s control. The general global consensus that current approaches to the global drug problem are counterproductive and harmful is lessening global support for them. There is increasing support for decriminalizing and legalizing marijuana. Several states in America decriminalized or legalized the sale and use of marijuana, and Uruguay became the first country to legalize the production, sale, and consumption of marijuana.

Concerns about global warming are reinforced by the frequency of destructive storms such as Hurricane Sandy in New York and Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines; droughts, forest fires, hotter weather, and floods
Muslims. Sunnis and Shiites who lived relatively decreased flow of arms to militant Islamic groups in Africa, Libya and widespread lawlessness there facilitated an intrinsic terrorist threat. The failure of the democratic transition in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), which is now the major global terrorism that remains a potent threat. Wars in Iraq and Syria have ignited sectarian violence and spawned the emergence of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), which is now the major global threat. The failure of the democratic transition in Libya and widespread lawlessness there facilitated an increased flow of arms to militant Islamic groups in Africa, making it a new front of terrorism. There are also rising threats from lone wolf terrorists, demonstrated by attacks in Boston, London, Sydney, Ottawa, and Paris.

Religious violence is increasing. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan deepened sectarian hostilities among Muslims. Sunnis and Shiites who lived relatively peacefully together prior to the American invasion and occupation of Iraq are now engaged in unprecedented bloodshed. More radical majority Sunni Muslims in Pakistan routinely attack the minority Shiites. The dominant Han Chinese violently suppress the minority Muslim Uighurs in Western China. Muslims attack Christians in northern Nigeria, and Christians attack Muslims in the Central African Republic. Buddhists persecute Muslims in Myanmar, and Hindus use violence against Muslims in India.

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are a leading global issue. NCDs cause roughly 80 percent of deaths in low- and middle-income countries and two thirds of deaths globally. These diseases include obesity, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease, and hypertension. Global aging, poverty, smoking, drug abuse, harmful use of alcohol, sedentary lifestyles, a growing global middle class, and cultural globalization contribute to the growth of NCDs. The globalization of fast food and sugary drinks contributes to the global obesity epidemic which, in turn, causes other diseases. A growing concern is the increasing resistance of superbugs to antibiotics used to treat diseases. The Ebola epidemic in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone focused attention on the global security threats of infectious diseases and the need for robust global responses to eliminate them.

The global financial crisis weakened Europe’s economy and contributed to an erosion of public confidence in political leaders to solve economic and social problems. Even as further European integration is essential to strengthen the European Union (EU) and the euro zone, regions of several countries are advocating for independence. Richer northern European countries resist spending more money on weaker southern countries such as Greece, Spain, and Portugal. Public support for the European Union has declined, and many governments favor limiting the free movement of people, which is a fundamental principle of the European Union.

States, the foundation of international relations, emerged relatively recently from fundamental technological, religious, economic, political, and cultural changes. The forces of globalization are now profoundly altering international relations, weakening the virtual monopoly of power enjoyed by states, strengthening nonstate actors and intergovernmental organizations, and eroding all forms of hierarchical organizations. Revolutions in technology, especially in communications, directly challenge traditional approaches to international politics.

Globalization intertwines the fates of states, intergovernmental organizations, nonstate actors, and individuals to an unprecedented degree. Wars, which have been a primary concern for states and traditionally the focus of...
international relations, also have changed. Globalization has made traditional warfare less likely and unconventional wars more prevalent. America’s longest war is not with another state but is instead against nonstate actors, especially al-Qaeda and the Taliban. The proliferation of drones and the use of cyberweapons present serious challenges to global security. These developments have the potential to engender a new arms race and increase international conflicts.

My decision to write this textbook was strongly influenced by the need for a comprehensive, accessible, and student-oriented introductory textbook for undergraduates that focuses specifically on global issues. This text concentrates on global issues that students around the world are passionate about because they are directly related to the forces of globalization that are integral components of their lives. The issues discussed in this book are both primary global concerns and those in which students have shown great interest. This book’s pedagogical features are based on classroom experiences that demonstrate how to help students understand complex concepts, develop critical-thinking skills, and engage in problem solving.

New to This Edition
All chapters have been substantially revised and updated to reflect current developments. Each chapter concludes with a detailed case study on a current global issue. New and updated topics include child labor, sweatshops, female genital mutilation, Cuba, Iran’s nuclear agreement, lone wolf terrorism, ISIS, cybercrime, Nigeria’s election, sexual assaults on campus and in the military, noncommunicable diseases, and Ebola. Included are updated tables and case studies on democratic transitions in the Middle East and North Africa, global food safety, the war in Afghanistan, government corruption in India, food security and the global food crisis, the obesity epidemic, the impact of the global financial crisis on Ireland, and the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

Additional features of each new chapter include the following:

- Chapter 1, “Challenges of Globalization”: Gated globalization; the European Union; multinational corporations and tax avoidance; the impact of social media on global affairs; challenges facing the Catholic Church
- Chapter 2, “The Struggle for Primacy in a Global Society”: Challenges facing China; domestic challenges to America’s global power, including growing inequality
- Chapter 3, “Human Rights”: The global response to the treatment of civilians in the Syrian civil war; human rights of women, people with disabilities, and homosexuals
- Chapter 4, “Promoting Democracy”: Transitions to democracy in Cuba, Myanmar, the Middle East, and North Africa; the power of social media to inspire young people to protest for change; women’s growing participation in democracy
- Chapter 5, “Global Terrorism”: Counterterrorism, including the use of drones; lone wolf terrorism; domestic terrorist groups such as Boko Haram; religious terrorism; Africa as a new front in global terrorism; terrorism in Pakistan
- Chapter 6, “Weapons Proliferation”: Proliferation of nuclear weapons; drones and cyberweapons; chemical and biological weapons
- Chapter 7, “The Global Financial Crisis”: Continuing fallout from the crisis and the global response; global high youth unemployment; global power shifts, including BRICS; effects of austerity policies
- Chapter 8, “Global Trade”: Global trade and currencies; insourcing; safety at global factories; trade blocs; genetically modified food
- Chapter 9, “Global Inequality and Poverty”: Growing economic inequality as a dominant global issue and a fuel for terrorism; inequality as a weakening force of American power; globalization as a cause of inequality; food security; economic development and poverty reduction
- Chapter 10, “Environmental Issues”: Indigenous peoples and the environment; new efforts to prevent deforestation; ocean pollution; global warming and climate change; water scarcity
- Chapter 11, “Population and Migration”: Population issues in developing and developed countries; new wave of migrants from the Middle East and North Africa; effects of immigration on Western Europe; Australia’s approach to asylum-seeking people in boats; global aging
- Chapter 12, “Global Crime”: The globalization of crime, including drugs, sexual crimes, smuggling of migrants, contemporary slavery, and human trafficking; cybercrime; government corruption
- Chapter 13, “Global Health Challenges”: The sharp rise in noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and the global response; fighting malaria; global responses to HIV/AIDS; the Ebola epidemic; Alzheimer’s disease; the global epidemic of obesity
- Chapter 14, “Cultural Clashes and Conflict Resolution”: Clashes among nations; ethnic conflict; rising anti-Semitism in Europe; religious violence, including ISIS; attempts to resolve conflict; war in Afghanistan
Features

Global Issues: Politics, Economics, and Culture is based on ten philosophical components that are interwoven into each chapter and throughout this book to provide students with:

1. A clearer understanding of how the powerful forces of economic, financial, cultural, political, environmental, and military globalization are affecting governments, nonstate actors, and individuals
2. A deeper awareness of the growing inability of governments, nonstate actors, and individuals to neatly compartmentalize problems within countries outside broader global developments
3. An appreciation for the complexities of global problems and their interdependence
4. A broader sense of the global issues and problems in developing countries
5. A historical background to many global issues that enables students to see continuity and change in human experiences
6. A deeper awareness of how globalization is profoundly challenging the state-centric emphasis that dominates international relations and world politics
7. A foundation for more advanced courses on globalization and global affairs
8. An understanding of basic concepts and theories and an ability to evaluate and apply them to real-life events and problems
9. An ability to think critically, develop independent judgment, and sharpen intellectual curiosity and imagination
10. A recognition of the power of individuals, including students, to have a positive impact on global problems

The text is composed of fourteen chapters, each focusing on a specific topic and related subtopics. The global issues covered in this book are widely regarded to be of critical importance by both the global community and instructors. In addition to providing instructors with the flexibility to stimulate student participation, the range of issues allows sufficient time during a semester to cover each chapter and to incorporate various pedagogical approaches. Instructors will have enough time to review for exams, administer at least three exams, and allow students to present research papers and other projects. This book can be easily supplemented with subscriptions to publications such as the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Economist, or Foreign Affairs, enabling students to obtain more current examples of the global issues discussed in these pages.

As a comprehensive introduction to global issues for students from different academic disciplines, Global Issues is written in a style that makes information very accessible. A more conversational writing style engages students, encourages them to relate what they read to global developments and their own lives, facilitates the development of analytical skills, and makes it easier for them to engage in discussions. Above all, it attempts to present a clear, straightforward discussion of interesting and important global issues without obscuring their complexity.

- **Chapter introductions** The introduction provides a brief overview of the main points in the chapter, tells students what is covered, and provides examples of controversial issues included in the chapter to stimulate students’ interest in the material.
- **Current examples** Consistent with the decision to adopt an accessible writing style, I have included many brief and current examples of global issues throughout the book. These examples make global issues more immediately relevant for students and encourage them to develop a concrete understanding of specific problems.
- **Historical background** Each chapter provides practical historical background information to give students an understanding of the issue’s broader context.
- **Cross-referenced issues** Chapters are cross-referenced to help students see the interrelatedness and interdependence of global issues. For example, by reading Chapter 10, “Environmental Issues,” students will explore the impact of economic globalization on the environment and culture as well as the relationships among environmental issues, global and domestic inequality, economic development, migration, cultural conflicts, and the spread of infectious diseases.
- **Maps and photographs** Maps help put issues in context and enable students to better grasp essential points discussed in the text. Carefully selected photographs portray specific developments and capture students’ attention.
- **Tables** Tables throughout the book help students understand important points discussed in the text.
- **Boldfaced key terms and definitions** These are designed to draw students’ attention to definitions, concepts, key terms, and main points. Stressing their importance reinforces the point that they are the building blocks of the chapter.
- **End-of-chapter summaries** These provide a brief review of the chapter. They focus students’ attention on major points and help them improve their comprehension and retention of the information.
• **End-of-chapter questions** These questions are designed to improve students’ retention of information, stimulate discussions in study groups, and help students prepare for exams.

• **Index** This listing allows students to quickly find key terms, concepts, names, and subjects discussed throughout the text. Many students find the index especially helpful when reviewing for exams.

**Available Instructor Resources**

A Test Bank comprising of additional questions in multiple choice, true/false, and open-ended—short and essay response—formats are available for instructors. These can be downloaded at [http://www.pearsonhighered.com/irc](http://www.pearsonhighered.com/irc). Login required.

**Acknowledgments**

I am deeply indebted to many students who made significant contributions to this collaborative and interdisciplinary project. Feedback from students in my Global Issues courses over the years has been invaluable and has contributed to making the book accessible to other students. I am also indebted to many research assistants, especially Yu Bo, Lara Saba, Brian Zednick, Janet Schultz, Natalie Mullen, Anthony DiMaggio, Nadejda Negroustoueva, Lindsay Barber, Meaghan Gass, Jake Owen, and Vanda Rajcan.

I am grateful to many colleagues who read the manuscript, made useful suggestions, and shared their insights. I would like to thank Michele Ganschow, Jamal Nassar, and Cherie Valentine of the Department of Politics and Government at Illinois State University; Laura Berk of the Department of Psychology at Illinois State University; Kelly Keogh of Normal Community High School; Carole J. Cosimano of the Illinois Humanities Council; Michael Edward Allison of the University of Scranton; Mikhail Alexseev of San Diego State University; Lindsey Back of Morehead State University; Eric Budd of Fitchburg State College; Brad T. Clark and M. Dawn King of Colorado State University; Mark E. Denham and Richard F. Weisfelder of the University of Toledo; Erich Frankland of Casper College; Mark Haas of Duquesne University; Barbara Hufker of Webster University; Sabrina Jordan of Bethune-Cookman University; Robert King of Georgia Perimeter College; Mark Martínez of California State University at Bakersfield; Daniel McIntosh of Slippery Rock University; Anjana Mishra of Florida International University; Luis Antonio Payan of the University of Texas at El Paso; George Quester of the University of Maryland; Timothy Russell of the University of Memphis; Houman Sadri of the University of Central Florida; Tom Schrand of Philadelphia University; Mark Schroeder of the University of Kentucky; Boyka Stefanova of University of Texas–Austin; Bill Sutton of Southern Maine Community College; Marjorie K. Nanian of Schoolcraft College; and Thomas J. Volgy of the University of Arizona.

I would also like to thank Michele Ganschow and Kay Stultz of Illinois State University for their invaluable assistance. In addition I want to thank Vikram Mukhija at Pearson, as well as the other staff of Pearson and Lumina Datamatics, Inc. who lent their great expertise to this edition. Above all, I am especially indebted to Jason C.F. Payne for helping me with the chapter on the global financial crisis, and to Elaine Cook Graybill for her support and insights during the writing of this book and for her ongoing research assistance and editorial oversight.

_Richard J. Payne_
Maps