

# Globalization, the Two-edged Sword Phenomenon—Reflections of Its Impact on Global Peace and Security

Benson, G.H (Associate Prof. /Ph.D.),  
Director for the Centre for Conflict, Human Rights and Peace Studies, University of Education, Winneba-  
Ghana;  
[ghbenson@yahoo.com](mailto:ghbenson@yahoo.com)

## Abstract

The phenomenon of globalization has a dynamism of its own, entailing complex processes and transboundary transactions that influence many areas of global governance and international relations. The benefits of globalization are multifaceted, justifying the saying that, ‘the world through globalization has become a global village’. The two-edged sword, however, has its shortfalls. In exploring the nexus between globalization and peace, this paper sought to examine the impact the phenomenon has on global peace and security. In that regard, the study mainly employed an exploratory quantitative approach involving 627 respondents across Ghana, even though secondary data was also used. The research questionnaire was administered using online survey tools (google) where the data were analyzed using survey analytics software. The study revealed a nexus between globalization and peace, and that globalization has both negatively and positively impacted global peace and security. Further, the benefits emanating from globalization including technological advancement, interconnectedness of nations, and the growth of national economies far exceed its excesses and shortfalls such as national cultural distortions, human rights aberrations, and the advancement of international crime. The paper argues that globalization in its current state needs improvement and this can take place when the international community learns to avoid pervasive attitudes in their implementation processes. Further, the United Nations Security Council must put in place sanction regimes against companies and countries that engage in the production and transfer of injurious goods and services that tend to plague global peace and security. The paper aside from adding to the scholarly literature on the subject area also provides insights for policy implementers to adopt the best practices within the terrain of globalization in safeguarding global peace and security.

**Keywords and expressions:** globalization, global peace, reflections, security, and two-sword phenomenon

**DOI:** 10.7176/JLPG/129-06

**Publication date:** March 15<sup>th</sup> 2023

## Part I: Introduction

Globalization as a concept evolved profoundly on the world stage immediately following the ashes of World War II (Cline, 1997). However, minimal traces of the phenomenon date back to the League of Nations days, only rapidly accelerating in the 1950s (Coats, 1997). As Williamson, 1998 opines, the phenomenon of globalization is not attributable to conquests as happened in many global historical episodes, but one that is premised on technological development and rapid expansion in international trade among nations.

The concept of globalization evokes varied understandings and interpretations (Burlacu et al., 2018; Manolica & Roman, 2012). For instance, while some scholars relate the phenomenon to the shrinking of ‘time’ and ‘space’, others associate the phenomenon with the exploitation of the developing world by giant economic nations. Be that as it may, globalization processes basically involve increases in the flow of goods, services, capital, people, technology, culture, and ideas across international boundaries; leading to the interdependence of the economies of nations, and the overall global interconnectedness (Diaz-Bonilla et al., 2002; Rodrik, 1997). In that light, our world today is aptly described as a global village (Saker et al., 2004).

The early stages of globalization traces to the Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century when Great Britain (at a time the world-leading economic and military power) liberalized its economy following the exigencies of World War II; when it changed its protectionist and mercantilist economic policies (Lutz & Lutz, 2015). According to Bailey et al. (2011), this policy drive was achieved amidst the great depression as Great Britain lowered tariffs on its goods with its trade partners outside the Empire. Subsequently, the US in replacing Britain as the leading developed economy, adopted a similar policy when it ‘walked the path’ of free trade in areas that were beneficial to American businesses (Bailey et al., 2011; Weidenbaum & Batterson, 2001). Learning from the ground-breaking experiences of the two giants, many other developed economies came to embark on transboundary free international trade. The initial focus was on goods that later came to cover services, capital investment, technological transfer, and cultural exportation.

Indeed, foreign-owned transnational corporations played a key role in the processes that brought about a tightly integrated global economy (Kay, 2004). Moreover, a process that once involved economic and international trade engagements among nations, moved beyond the scope of economic integration to include political, social, and cultural dynamics (Bailey et al., 2011). Since then, the accelerated spate of development

experienced by humanity and manifested in the interconnectivity and interdependence of nation-states is attributable to globalization.

Without any doubt, the concept brings multifaceted benefits to the Comity of States and their citizens in diverse ways. The ever-increasing trend in international trade among countries accounts for the growth of economies that have led to the betterment of the lives of global citizens (Steger, 2014). Further, technological advancement has equally brought many opportunities to humanity in the fields of agriculture, medicine, education, communication, transportation, global governance, international relations, *etcetera*. On the other hand, globalization which is rightly described as a double-edged sword has its own negative attributes just as any other phenomenon. For example, transnational corporations coming under the cloak of globalization have exploited workers, mostly from the countries of the Global South, contributing to the underdevelopment of such countries (Huynen et al., 2005). In a similar vein, international criminals have used technology with wrong motives to exploit vulnerable global citizens, at the same time some have used inventions to terrorize global citizens leading to breaches of international peace and security (Stephens, 2018).

Explaining further on the note of global peace and security, before the advent of the 11 September 2001 suicide attacks on the World Trade Fair Centre in the United States, the discourse on the globalization phenomenon focused mainly on the interconnectivity of the globe and the interdependence of national economies (Kay, 2004). However, the terrorist attacks by the militant Islamic extremist network al-Qaeda precipitated a closer look at the interrelationship between globalization and global peace and security (Gartzke, 2005). At this point, there have since been prolific debates at both national and international fora, regarding the impact of globalization on global peace and security. This paper explores the elements of global peace and security within the context of globalization.

## **Part II: Background Literature**

### ***The Concept of Globalization***

Even though globalization is not a new phenomenon as the trend dates back to the middle part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, it has only recently taken center stage in contemporary international relations discourse (Amavilah, et al., 2014; Arfat, 2013). The trend, which began with the liberalization of Britain's (then global economic and military power) economy, fosters greater integration of national and regional economies, into a larger and globally unified economic system, based on freer trade in goods, services, and capital investment (Bailey et al., 2011).

Indeed, even though no consensus has been reached on a single accepted definition of globalization, Kay (2004, p. 10) submits that "*Globalization is best understood as the creation of a variety of transboundary mechanisms for interaction that affect and reflect the acceleration of economic, political, and security interdependence.*" The United Nations (2000) states that globalization is a multidimensional phenomenon that consists of varied complex but interrelated dynamic processes, usually involving the broadening of rapid transboundary exchanges that are premised on technological, communication, and media developments. On their part, Steiner and Alston (2007) posit that as exchanges and interactions occur at all societal levels, an interdependent world is in the creation.

Within the context of a tightly integrated global economy, Bailey et al., 2011 aver that major economic sectors of both developed and developing economies have come under the control of giant transnational corporations. To that extent, growing international trade among nation-states and the ever-increasing technology that are features of globalization have made the world highly interconnected, interdependent, and narrow in scope in terms of socialization and political connectivity.

Basiga (2004) observes that since the inception of the globalization phenomenon, people from both the Global North and Global South have come to share commonalities in terms of opportunities and resources where the imposition of policies and actions on one part, often influence other countries either negatively or positively. People, as a result, have come to eat similar foods and drinks, wear similar clothes, enjoy the same music, and above all communicate in a common language (Basiga, 2004).

Conceptually, globalization has been given three scholarly foundational descriptions. On one hand, it denotes competition among national and international companies where each of them strives at maximizing profits. This international process integrates economies through the social restructuring of the modes of production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services, which has been enhanced by the removal of trade restrictions and the encouragement of the free movement of capital and people across countries (Amavilah, et al., 2014). It is argued further that, globalization goes beyond economic integration to encompass universalization and commodification of knowledge, improvement, and innovation of technology and communication, cultural infusion, joint-ownership of natural resources, dissemination of information on health care, and genetic code inclusivity, amongst others (Basiga, 2004). Lastly, globalization is equated to westernization and modernization, where existing socio-cultural local structures are replaced by the social structures of capitalism, rationalism, industrialism, and the imperialism of social institutions spearheaded by

CNN, Hollywood, and McDonald's (Arfat, 2013). To this end, the globalization process brings peoples and communities together within the context of a common economic, social, and cultural environment.

Stiglitz (2003) posits that globalization takes place in five principal forms---international trade, foreign direct investment, capital market flows, migration involving labor movement, and diffusion of technology. Chris Drew (2022) however, lists eight types of globalization namely; social, technological, financial, economic, political, cultural, ecological, and sociological globalizations. First, political globalization is diplomatic engagements (negotiations) that take place between countries in an effort to standardize global rules in terms of trade, rule of law, and criminality (Campbell, 2004). Since its creation in 1945, the United Nations (UN) and its agencies in particular the World Trade Organization (WTO) have facilitated the processes of political globalization. Multinational organizations such as the European Union (EU) and the African Union (AU) in addition to other non-governmental organizations have equally played a role in this direction through multilateral agreements on issues of trade and investment (Rantanen, & Jimenez-Martinez, 2019). Political globalization other than creating room for countries to meddle in each other's businesses, has nonetheless, positively influenced international rule of law, prevented war crimes, and minimized the implementation of bad trans-border policies (Campbell, 2004).

Second, economic globalization has to do with the ways that multinational corporations and organizations engage in business transactions (Davidson, et al., 2020). Take for instance, McDonald's and HSBC, which once upon a time only existed in the United States (US) and the United Kingdom (UK) respectively, but are now visible in many countries across the globe within the globalized economy. In the same vein, many manufacturing companies have moved to developing nations where labor is cheaper, thus leading to reduced prices of products in host nations. However, the dark spot in this development is that these multinational corporations also tend to exploit poorer nations in the given circumstances.

Third, financial globalization refers to the ease at which money and capital are transferred around the world within the tenets of globalization (Campbell, 2004; Davidson, et al., 2020). The growth of stock exchanges and the internationalization of financial markets has hugely promoted this aspect of globalization, where money is easily transferred across global borders, thus making it cheaper and easier for foreign companies to invest in host countries (Davidson, et al., 2020).

Fourth, social or sociological globalization involves societal integration, where peoples of all races live in a shared society (Martell, 2016). Against this backdrop, whatever is happening in Russia and Ukraine today in terms of their conflict, affects almost all countries on the face of the globe just as how the Covid-19 pandemic spread to the rest of the world from China where it started. Another aspect of social globalization involves the ease with which people move across borders to look for jobs and engage in business ventures (Martell, 2016).

Fifth, technological globalization accounts for the spread and transfer of technology across borders (Rantanen, & Jimenez-Martinez (2019). The trend is exemplified in the spread of the internet, medical, and solar panel technologies, amongst others, that bring about improvement in the lives of global citizens (Campbell, 2004).

Sixth, cultural globalization involves the spread and mixing of cultures of peoples of all races around the world into what is called a global culture (Davidson, et al., 2020; Tzanelli, 2007). Great as it may sound, this process favors the homogenization of the cultures of dominant nations across the globe. In this instance, the US through the use of television, movies, clothes, food, *etcetera*, has unduly induced and diluted indigenous cultures of nations of the Global South, in particular. In some instances, indigenous cultures are even lost, while foreign cultures survive.

Lastly, ecological and geographical globalization involves the processes that lead to the interconnectivity of the world into a single ecosystem and the closure of barriers, and the narrowing of geographical distances between nations, respectively (Martell, 2016; Rantanen & Jimenez-Martinez, 2019). In the given milieu, there is a need for governments and the entirety of the international community to work towards the resolution of ecological challenges as they stand today in the areas of the Ozone layer and climate change. Tzanelli (2007) suggests that this is achievable through the effective implementation of the regulations of International Conventions such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Climate Agreement. To that end, countries and peoples commit to eschew tendencies that usually lead to the degradation of the environment. On the part of geographical globalization, nations now work in multinational blocs such as the European Union (EU), African Union (AU), and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to take concrete decisions that address common problems that will eventually inure to the socio-politico-economic development of nations. Given these dimensions of globalization, the world can begin to dissect the positive and negative influences that globalization has brought to bear on global survival, thus enabling the reshaping of the concept to suit its exigencies.

### ***Benefits and discontents***

The influences of globalization on individuals, societies, and nation-states are varied (Brauch, 2010; Osland, 2003). Explaining why Saker et al. (2004) posit that forces of socio-economic processes, technological developments, political influences, cultural and value systems, and natural environmental factors, drive these diverse and widespread scenarios. Within this context, it is also argued that the medium for power utilization has been refashioned by globalization to the extent that the phenomenon brings hope to some people (Aiginger & Handler, 2017; Calitoiu, 2011; Kay, 2004; Weidenbaum & Batterson, 2001). These two schools of thought regarding the positive and negative impacts of the globalization phenomenon appear to be polarized by different ideological and philosophical standings that have generated vigorous debates over the years. This perhaps explains why Lee (2000) and Manolica and Roman (2012) have laid claim to the fact that no single acceptable scholarly definition of the term has been reached as yet, following the over-polarization of the concept.

For emphasis, the influences of globalization are diverse at both the national and the global levels, involving both benefits and demerits, even though debatably the advantages far outweigh the negativities. In terms of benefits, globalization has ignited global economic growth in an unprecedented manner. This has been reflected in the areas of job creation, increased productivity, price reduction, improvement in the standard of living of global citizens, investment opportunities, and specialization in the creation of varied goods and services where global citizens have broad options and a large range of choices thus making life easier. Following the advent of globalization in its current stage, Rantanen & Jimenez-Martinez (2019) suggest that poverty at the global scale has been reduced by 35 %, with 1.1 billion people moving out of extreme poverty within the context of the Millennium Development Goal initiative. Further, we witness a monumental increase in terms of global cooperation, as nation-states have come to put away their differences in recognition of the benefits of the socioeconomic development that come with global integration *via* globalization (Campbell, 2004). Increased cross-border investments and increases in healthy global competitions have led to the lowering of costs of products since companies find less costly ways of production (Davidson, et al., 2020). Moreover, access to international markets has opened businesses to new customers and diverse revenue streams, enabling International Professional Employer Organizations (PEOs) to employ workers in other countries with ease and compliance, without having to establish foreign legal entities in order to expand their frontiers overseas (Rantanen & Jimenez-Martinez, 2019).

Several companies have had the opportunity of acquiring and exploring new talents in foreign markets that may not be available within their own markets through booming Stock Exchange engagements in the like of Berlin, Stockholm, *etcetera*. Largely, consumers have a variety of choices that help them live better on less income. Indeed, access to new cultures through globalization makes it easier for global citizens to access otherwise appropriate foreign cultures, foods, music, and art that inure to the overall socio-cultural development of nations. In addition, cultural globalization spreads new ideas, technologies, tools, attitudes, and social networks, thereby influencing governance styles (Bufacchi, 2017). Moreover, the spread of technology and innovation accelerates the interconnectivity of countries to knowledge and technological advancement in several spheres including medicine, transportation, industrialization, communication, entertainment, sports, and commerce (Rantanen, & Jimenez-Martinez, 2019). Lastly, transformations of the global economy owe a lot to globalization as the phenomenon offers great opportunities by increasing the wealth of nations through the promotion of international trade and the spread of quality education and information technology (Arfat, 2013).

With the enviable achievements noted above, globalization nonetheless, has its own negatives and challenges. First, as different societies come together under the prowess of globalization, societies tend to lose their cultural identity. Tzanelli (2007) bemoans that less successful cultures in the circumstances, lose their distinctive features to more successful cultures, thus denying the world the global diversity that it needs. Second, there tend to be immigration challenges and local job losses, because many countries in their rush to protect their economies in the face of globalization tend to tighten their immigration and employment laws, thus making it difficult for immigrants to find jobs in foreign lands. In the same vein, international recruitments across borders create unknowns for Human Resource teams in terms of qualifications, salaries, and benefits of workers as a result of cultural differences, time zone differentials, and language barriers.

Third, foreign workers are exploited as competitors look for cheap labor to survive (Davidson, et al., 2020). Fourth, global expansion becomes difficult to achieve as the overseas compliance setting remains a tough one, often leading to the disproportionate growth of national economies. Fifth, environmental concerns including deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions, climate warming, and the introduction of invasive species into the environment, are heightened in the face of rapid globalization processes. Water sources and the atmosphere, in general, are polluted by chemical and gas emissions from the industrial activities of multinational corporations, thus heightening the threats to human well-being in the nature of environmental risks (Basiga, 2004; Gregg, 2012; Donnelly, 2013). Sixth, Waldron (2010) argues that the widening of the economic gap between developing and developed countries is the bane of globalization, hence a reinforcement of the traditional inequality phenomenon that separates the Global South from the Global North.

Seventh, in terms of human security, social justice, environmental care, and democracy, Basiga (2004) argues that the consequences delivered by globalization on the global stage, are diverse. Against this backdrop, while Amavilah et al. (2014) aver that globalization induces peace, security, and global order, Bufacchi (2017) argues that socio-cultural-economic globalization in stimulating competitiveness tends to increase ethnic conflicts.

Eighth, Ishay (2007) submits that the impact of globalization on the fundamental rights of global citizens is a mixed one, describable as a double-edged sword that imposes on the world, two powerful and contradictory dynamics namely, fusion and fission. He explained that while under fusion states seek out economic, political, and military alliances for strength and safety as in the case of the African Union (AU), and European Union (EU), under the fission phenomenon, states rather disintegrate into smaller political entities as was in the case of the former Soviet states. He further posits that the political consequences of globalization in particular have been ghastly, to say the least as borders are increasingly being contested, with majorities seeking annexations while minorities seek secession. Ishay (2007) further avers that while on the one hand citizens of poorer nations benefit from global markets as international trade reduces poverty and facilitates accountability; the phenomenon on the other hand reflects and promotes the self-interests of the wealthiest states to the detriment of poorer nations.

Lastly, globalization affords governments of the Global South the incentives to disfranchise, exploit and violate the rights of the poor in particular, even though human rights have seen promotion under the spread of liberal ideas within countries of the Global North (Arfat, 2013). Again, Arfat (2013) did observe that while globalization enhances Civil Societies and Multinational Corporations (MNCs) to function across borders, these entities often violate human rights in unforeseen ways—denying citizens the right to work and the right to labor, as established under International Labour Organization (ILO) declarations. Additionally, the support of workers' rights in the areas of health and safety standards is undermined by many MNCs, as labor costs are extremely low amidst repressions of unionized labor (Haas, 2014).

### Part III: Defining Global Peace and Security

The term peace has been subjected to a variety of definitions that are most times very subjective. For example, peace for a housewife connotes a reflection of a continuous increase in the housekeeping allowances of a husband, while for a dying man, peace is deep in the grave (Benson, 2022). From the 1960s, however, the element of subjectivity regarding the definition of the term, 'peace' took a turn as an alternative view about peace evolved, characteristic of a shift from the absence of physical violence to indirect or structural violence (Galtung (1995). Hitherto, the definition of peace was exclusively linked to the absence of armed conflict. Rowan (2016) unlike earlier thinkers such as Hugo Grotius and Raymond Aron, corroborated Galtung's definition of peace when he asserts that peace is simply not the absence of war or violence but a state of mind or virtue where benevolence, confidence, freedom, and justice exist. He concluded that these virtues constitute the major components that make an individual to be at peace with the rest of the world. However, to be at peace with the world, one has to be at peace with oneself '*Nemo dat quad non habet*'. The Latin rendition refers, to '*You cannot give what you do not have*'. The onetime Secretary-General of the United Nations Dag Hammarskjöld, once said, '*Our work for peace must begin within the private world of each of us. To build for man a world without fear, we must be without fear. To build a world of justice, we must be just*' (Rowan, 2016, p14).

Galtung (1995) renders the most comprehensive scholarly definition of the term, 'peace' when he premised peace on three trajectories-negative peace, positive peace, and structural peace. Firstly, negative peace is the absence of physical or direct violence (both micro and macro) such as war, fighting, torture, child and woman abuse, killing, *etcetera* (Galtung (1995). Secondly, positive peace is both the absence of physical/direct violence (war) and structural violence (poverty or discrimination) and the presence of the well-being of humanity and socio-politico-economic justice. Thirdly, structural peace is the presence of both negative and positive peace, in addition to the absence of ecological violence (pollution, overconsumption), poverty, disease, human rights abuses, oppression, socio-cultural violence (discrimination against minority and racial groups, sexism, religious intolerance) and injustice, *inter alia* (Boutrous-Ghali, 1992).

The world today stands at a crossroads as many activities of humanity have increasingly deprived us of the needed peace that we deserve, to the point where a stranger from space will readily describe our planet as the most dangerous, giving the hourly reports of violence by both the print and electronic media. Conflicts, which come with varied typologies to include international wars, inter-state war, intra-state conflicts, and terrorism, *inter alia*, permeate all societal levels between individuals, groups, and nation-states; being manifestations of strives over needs, interests, values, and ideology just to mention the few (Benson, 2022). According to Halevy and Cohen (2020), conflicts are manifestations of incompatibilities between one or more parties over goals, thoughts, emotions, or needs; that often lead to opposition. Akparep (2019) describes conflicts as interactive processes that often lead to disparities, mismatches, and incompatibilities between and among individuals, groups, or nations. On his part, Asante (2011, p.12) submits that conflicts constitute, '*a state of mind*

*characterized by indecision, uncertainty, dilemma, tension, and anxiety...It is the expression of disagreement over something important to both sides of a dispute'.*

This study explores the impact of globalization on global peace and security. Security in simple terms refers to the state of being free from danger or threat. Within this context, international or global security refers to the mutual survival and safety of nations and humanity (Buzan & Hansen, 2009). However, it is worth noting even at this stage that global security and national security are interlinked and inseparable since global security is state security within the global arena (Sheehan, 2005).

Several interconnected issues that affect human survival and for that matter global security include conventional modes of military power, ethnic conflicts, religious conflicts, ideological conflicts, trade and economic conflicts, science and technology advancement, environmental degradation, infectious diseases, threats to human insecurity, activities of non-state actors, and even globalization, *inter alia* (Buzan, 1998; Elman, 2008; Morgan, 2007). Buzan and Hansen (2009), however, suggest that even though the wider perspective of international security covers a wide terrain, the traditional approach lays emphasis on matters that generate exclusive military concerns. In contrast, Paris (2004) views security as “in the eye of the beholder” where everything comes as a potential security threat depending on what is at stake and who is at the center of it.

The components or dimensions of global security on the main include human, environmental, national, transnational, and transcultural security, explaining why global security cannot be achieved without good governance at all levels of society that guarantees security through the rule of law and justice for all (Al-Rodhan, 2007). The human security component has the individual as the referent object, while environmental security entails climate change, global warming, and access to natural resources. Similarly, national security covers the activities of state actors, and transnational security threats such as organized crimes, terrorism, and human trafficking (Al-Rodhan, 2007). Lastly, transcultural security covers the integrity of diverse cultures and civilization forms (Baylis, 2011). Since the 1990s, actors of the concept of international or global security have come to include nations, groups, individuals, international systems (United Nations), non-governmental organizations, and local governments (Baylis, 2011; Wohlforth, 2010).

### ***The Globalization and Peace Nexus***

The globalization concept, which is employed as an umbrella term for economic, political, and cultural processes, has an interconnection with the concept of peace (Baylis, 2011; Benson, 2022). The two concepts, in particular, globalization has both a direct and indirect beneficial influence on global peace. Within that context, globalization promotes peace through two channels: bilateral trade interdependence and global market integration (Hegre et al., 2002).

International trade, foreign investment, and other forms of economic interdependence as induced by globalization have seen accelerated growth in the aftermath of World War II. These induced processes have the capacity to increase global peace directly or indirectly, enhancing national economic growth and political stability (Hegre et al., 2002). First, globalization promotes peace through bilateral trade interdependence that reduces the probability of inter-state military conflict. Indeed, global trade openness lowers the probability of conflict with a trade partner to the extent that bilateral economic interdependence limits the military inventiveness for interstate belligerency. Indeed, economic interdependence is a conduit of peace since a state that is more trade-dependent is less likely to fight a partner when a larger trade-derived gain is at stake (Lee, 2000). Against this backdrop, Cirdei (2019) submits that economic openness is closely associated with greater stability of political systems since globalization tends to reduce inter-ethnic conflicts by promoting democracy.

Second, globalization has been one of the most important features of the world economy where emerging markets and countries continue to integrate into the global trading system, bringing the world more towards the attainment of peace than towards conflict (Davidson, et al., 2020). Regional and global economic integrations such as the European Union which are often initiated for peace and security reasons, affirm the nexus between globalization and peace (Stiglitz, 2003).

Third, the world stands to attain perpetual peace through strong diplomatic and political ties among countries that emanate from ties brought on by economic interdependence through globalization (Campbell, 2004).

Lastly, the interconnection between the two concepts is a symbiotic one where global peace equally influences globalization processes positively, in that market forces and integrative economic processes only thrive under peaceful situations. As stated by Huynen et al. (2005), globalization stands to grow under peace situations where trading partners and states are inspired to increase their investments and corporation in the area of economic integration.

### **Part IV: Globalization and its Impact on Global Peace and Security**

For emphasis, this study is an evaluation of the impact of globalization on transnational security, with a focus on human security, which is underpinned by seven key components. The United Nations Development Program

(UNDP) lists these components as economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, and political security (UNDP, 1994). Within that context, the paper also evaluates how globalization influences issues such as human trafficking, the spread of diseases, environmental disasters and degradation, poverty, interstate and intra-state wars, nuclear proliferation, human rights abuses, unemployment, indebtedness, hunger, healthcare, unsafe lifestyles, pandemics, poor nutrition, and ethnic violence.

The 2020 report of the United Nations Secretary-General highlights human mobility, inequality, disarmament, regulation of arms, trade and economic relations, digital technologies, civic participation, and climate change, as factors that interact with contemporary global peace and security. In fact, the emergence of the phenomenon of globalization has propelled technological advancement and brought about the development of telecommunication gadgets that have made interaction, trade and business, and mobility across borders easier. However, globalization and its attendant technological advancement have generated grave security implications at both the global and national stages. Ahmed (2004) and Kay (2004) argue that despite its benefits to states and individuals alike, globalization is posing new threats to global peace as it is slowly destabilizing states and increasing structural violence. Morgan (2008) on his part asserts that the effects of globalization on human security are oppressive to both individuals and communities, reflective of the increases in poverty, hunger, and health insecurity through diseases. The consequences that go even beyond what has been outlined so far, are discussed shortly below.

### ***Increased national insecurity***

The processes of globalization generate human insecurity, often providing fertile grounds for the undermining of states' securities (Ahmed (2004). In essence, the presence of food, health, economic, personal, community, and political insecurity sows seeds of discord for violence, first at the national scale and then within the global arena. Ahmed (2004, p. 124) decries the situation in these terms:

“...widespread societal unrest, the undermining of state power and legitimacy, the emergence of parallel criminal economies managed by rival warlords, the mutual corruption and militarization of the state and society, and the ultimate eruption of violent conflicts fuelled by war economies, have adversely influenced global peace and security. In this way, as globalization and the international economic order tend to generate state-inclined economic insecurity, the security of less developed countries are fundamentally challenged or destabilized.”

Implying this assertion of Ahmed (2004), anytime there is general impoverishment, pandemics, and the lack or limitation of opportunities for people to exercise their life choices, state security is usually undermined or even destabilized in extreme cases. On another note, studies have shown that the interconnectedness of the world *via* the globalization phenomenon, has led to an attenuation of Civil Wars on a global scale. In sampling 160 countries over the period of 1970 to 2009 and analyzing the relationship between globalization and intrastate conflicts, Ezcurra and Manotas (2014) discovered that Civil Wars increased due to the integration processes resulting from globalization. Similarly, Gobbicchi (2004) and Stephens (2018) established a negative correlation between globalization and conflicts, suggesting that globalization has the potential of influencing both conflict eruption, as well as, the multiplication of conflict effects and their extension beyond the boundaries of the conflict environment. In developing countries, van de Walle (1998) observed that globalization is generating some negative consequences as social inequalities and economic instability are on the increase, at the same time that state sovereignty is undermined. Walle (1998) in acknowledging a connection between globalization and the rise in ethnic conflicts submitted that, if governments are unable to deal with these challenging issues, their security stands huge risks that may lead to destabilization.

In contrast, however, Chisadza and Bittencourt (2018) who used panel data from 46 Sub-Saharan African countries over the period of 1970 to 2013 in analyzing the relationship between globalization and conflicts, found a great reduction in conflicts due to increases in socially oriented globalization processes. Following their study, Chisadza and Bittencourt (2018, p. 1) concluded thus; “...*social interactions through increased migration, commerce and access to information encourages tolerance and raises the opportunity cost of conflict*”. They further averred that the removal of boundaries by deed of globalization, deterred countries from fighting as these countries in question appreciated the consequences of conflict. However, they observed that in the given circumstances, globalization has comparatively decreased intrastate conflicts more than it has done with interstate conflicts.

In their analysis of how globalization might cause Civil Wars using the liberal and structuralist models, Hegre et al. (2002) observed that, unlike violent crime, there is no link between globalization and Civil War, nor is there any between economic openness and a decrease in the growth of national economies. Hence, they dismissed the occurrences of Civil Wars as a result of globalization, though they agreed that countries with high per capita incomes and stable political systems have a considerably lower risk of Civil War occurrences than those without them. Nonetheless, Hegre et al. (2002) posited that income inequalities emanating from

international trade tend to lay fertile grounds for violent crimes, suggestive of the fact that high levels of inequalities that are induced through the activities of globalization may lead to violence. In conclusion, Hegre et al. (2002, p. 1) said, “*Globalization has an indirect conflict-reducing effect.*”

The debate on the impact of globalization on global peace and security seems unending. However, the author argues that some aspects of globalization not only influence conflicts but also have the potency of destabilizing state security and adversely affecting global peace and security. Indeed, technological advancement in the face of modern globalization has given rise to some amount of state, community, and individual insecurity in the areas of cyber-crimes, and terrorist activities. For instance, hacking into official internet websites has brought a lot of insecurity to individuals, corporate entities, and nations. In 2016, the US accused Russia of having masterminded its presidential elections, which saw the election of Mr. Donald Trump through the hacking of election procedures. In the same year, the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of Ghana (EC) complained that their system was hacked into rendering the release of the general results problematic. As a result, the EC had to revert to conventional means of compiling and declaring the results. These two examples had enough potential to have wrecked the security of the countries involved.

Criminals have also taken over the ICT systems of corporate bodies and state institutions including security institutions, through hacking. Recently, unconfirmed reports suggest that the systems of the Electricity Company of Ghana were hacked into; seriously affecting the operations of the company in particular the pre-paid billing system that rendered several homes without light for days. This in itself had national security implications as frustrated clients of the company threatened to take to the streets. Cyber-attacks are numerous in the records. They include first, Iranian hackers who in September 2022 targeted Albanian computer systems forcing them to shut down the Total Information Management System. Second, in August 2022, hackers targeted the Finnish Parliament with a DDoS attack that rendered the Parliamentary website inaccessible. Lastly, the Russian-based hacking group attacked the UK’s intelligence agency M15 (CSIS, 2022). These cyber-based attacks have the capacity of setting countries ablaze.

Technological development in the fields of communication and transportation have enabled criminals and some state agencies to spy on national security gadgets. In much the same way, terrorists as cited above in the case of the 11/9 US terrorist attack and the close-by Boko Haram terrorist group, use highly placed technology to effect attacks on states, communities, and individuals with impunity. Going further, drones and other instruments are used to tap and record sensitive state information, thus compromising the security of these nations. Additionally, technology has enhanced the invention and creation of weapons of mass destruction, threatening international peace and security. The current Russian-Ukrainian war attests to this assertion.

### ***Generation of new threats to peace and security***

Advancement under globalization makes it possible today for the emergence of new threats to individual and collective security such as terrorism, organized crime, drug, and human trafficking, *etcetera*, (Cirdei, 2019). The emergence of violence by non-state actors is one of the new threats to individual and collective security, where rogue groups and terrorists are able to move across borders much faster and with ease. Further, globalization has made technological gadgets available to extremist groups and terrorists, enabling them to communicate, coordinate, recruit their members with ease, and plan and mobilize funds and resources to execute their attacks, thus erupting violence and causing global insecurity (United Nations, 2020). Moreover, extremists and terrorist groups are able to extend their networks to other territories of the world. ISIS and Al Qaeda are classic examples of how globalization has facilitated the spread of terrorist groups or networks across the world. As a result, previously ‘free states’ such as Ghana are now under threats of terrorist attacks and infiltration by international terrorist groups. In all of this, the worrying aspect of the new threat of peace and security by non-state actors is the fact that they “...cannot be correlated within a particular territory, do not have an exact location, the threat being diffuse, permanent and multidirectional” (Cirdei, 2019, p. 42).

Furthermore, human trafficking has been made easier through globalization as many people continue to be trafficked from Africa to Europe, Asia, and Latin America since mobility is enhanced and made easier and faster (Sule & Amah, 2020). They noted; “*Globalization has increased the mobility of people with some migrants falling into the waiting hands of criminals who make money from illegals. Children are enticed through cash and gradually introduced into drugs and other menaces*” (Sule & Amah, 2020, p. 131).

Technological advancement through globalization has also facilitated global security threats such as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, financial crime, cyber-attacks, and terrorism as already mentioned. Writing on ‘*The Impact of Globalization on the Security Environment*’, Cirdei (2019) argued that globalization is making it possible for one to launch attacks on a target from afar, exacerbating vulnerabilities and generating new threats to peace and security. Cirdei (2019, p. 45) further noted:

“...amplification of vulnerabilities and proliferation of threats that affect the general perception of security, such as developing technologies that allow targets to be hit at great distances; omni directionality and permanence of threats; the emergence of new risks and vulnerabilities. The creation



of new sources of instability, the disappearance of borders, the emergence of new environments for the manifestation of hostile intentions, such as cyberspace, the emergence of non-state organizations with regional assertions, the amplification of phenomena such as migration and drug trafficking, the proliferation of hybrid threats, *inter alia*, are the new threats to global security.

Going further, Cirdei (2019) stresses that globalization favors the emergence of outbreaks that are capable of amplifying both individual and collective insecurity. This suggests that globalization does not just generate instability and threats to peace and security but also exacerbates, amplifies, and provides new mechanisms for the actualization of threats as well as extends and sustains such threats. Other impacts of globalization on global peace and security include:

“...the relocation of industries to poor countries; migration of intelligence from poor countries to wealthy countries; increasing the role and influence of corporations to the detriment of states and economic and financial interdependencies. Included in this list are important mutations in the value system; erosion of individual and group safety; the spread of local and regional chronic phenomena and manifestations and resource competition. The rest are developing organized crime networks; the recurrence of trafficking in human beings and drugs; proliferation of weapons and CBRN assets; development of terrorist organizations; the expansion of ethnic and religious fanaticism; the spread of diseases (in humans, animals and plants) and the import and export of insecurity and instability” (Cirdei, 2019, p. 44-45).

To that extent, it is apparent that the impact of globalization on global peace and security is diverse, multifaceted, and widespread. Given the multiplicity of these threats, an attempt at addressing the effects of globalization on global peace and security would require exploring multidimensional measures and mechanisms.

### ***Increased human insecurity***

In spite of all the benefits that globalization brings to humanity, human insecurity is on the ascendency in contemporary times and is blameable for the phenomenon. Against this backdrop, Ahmed (2004) posits that as globalization and the current international economic order erodes food, economic and health security of individuals and communities, their security is not only compromised but deteriorates at a fast rate. Policies of international economic and financial bodies such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank have exacerbated economic inequality and poverty among countries, widening the gap between the developed and less developed countries in the given circumstances, and as well, marginalizing many populations in developing countries (Ahmed, 2004). At the same time, debt unsustainability among developing countries has become a worrisome trend, further pushing human insecurity to higher levels. At the time of concluding this study, Ghana is back on the negotiating table with the IMF for a bailout after several previous engagements, following its dire economic distress. These global institutions are known to have contributed to debt increases among poorer countries and fuelled unemployment among the youth, thereby worsening the human insecurity factor.

Further, many people in developing countries continue to be faced with the challenges of famine, pandemics, diseases, poverty, malnutrition, and lack of drinking water, as influenced by globalization-related processes and activities. The Covid-19 virus that killed millions of people across the world is uncontentious and interconnected with some activities of globalization. In the ensuing milieu, national economies and international businesses have crashed into oblivion, further impoverishing local populations and widening the inequality gap between the poor and rich, and between the developed and less developed countries, leading to increasing human insecurity. Indeed, global citizens still struggle to meet their essential needs and earn a living due to the shocks from the global pandemic.

To conclude, worthy of mention is the ongoing Russo-Ukraine war, which is a clear demonstration of how globalization can undermine human security through technological advancement. The use of weapons of mass destruction as waged by the two former Soviet Republics against each other brings extensive threats to humanity in the areas of human extinction, untold hardships, hunger, and price increases in essential commodities such as food and energy, amongst others. Finally, the fast-deteriorating global climate change and the extensive environmental degradation as precipitated by some globalization-related activities, create deep-seated human and global insecurity. For instance, it is a well-known fact that climate change is fast reducing biodiversity, arable land, and livelihood opportunities as well as causing droughts in both developed and developing countries (United Nations, 2020). To that extent, the world body has observed that global peace and security tend to be threatened when communities are unable to adapt to the shocks of climate change.

### **Part V: Theoretical Underpinnings**

Global security studies are underpinned by varied theoretical approaches, the major ones being namely; ‘realism’, ‘neorealism’, ‘liberalism’, and constructivism theories. Realism theory has been a dominant theory in the field of international relations, carved out from military theories and the writings of great thinkers including

Sun Tzu, Hobbes, Machiavelli, Rousseau, Thucydides, and Edward Hallett Carr (Elman, 2008). First, classical realism thoughts, which submit that bad things happen as a result of the decisions of bad leaders who make weird foreign policies, are based on three core assumptions—groupism, egoism, and power centrism (Morgan, 2007). Second, realists hold that anarchy and the absence of a power that regulates interactions between nation-states account for the distinctive characteristics of international politics (Wohlforth, 2010). Third, neorealism is a revival of classic liberal thoughts in the 1960s as spearheaded by Kenneth Waltz, highlighting issues on balance of power, balance of threat, security dilemma, offense-defense, hegemonic stability, and power transition theories (Wohlforth, 2010). Fourth, neorealism theories explain why states often find cooperation a hard thing to do and why the modern states system still propels hegemonic strives among states (Elman, 2008). Fifth, liberalism, which has a shorter history, evolved from the ashes of World War I with Thomas Paine and Immanuel Kant as the pacesetters of the theory. The idea of Kant in his ‘Perpetual Peace’ approach is the starting point of contemporary liberal thought (Navari, 2008). Liberalism expounds on the idea that the tenets of liberalism include dynamic governance, integration, and democratization where overall, the establishment of transnational institutions is one major factor upon which, international conflicts can be eliminated or rather minimized (Navari, 2008; Rousseau, 2010). In agreeing with the realist theory that the mere setting up of international institutions cannot dispel anarchic systems, it, however, asserts that the international environment that is constructed under such circumstances influences the behavior of states within that system, thus contributing to world peace (Navari, 2008). Finally, since the 1980s, constructivism has gained a state of influence in international security studies. Constructionists on the main argue that the social theory of constructivism informs how security studies must be approached since security itself is a social construction, usually laying emphasis on socio-cultural-historic factors that guide global security efforts (McDonald, 2008).

Two theories that underpin this study are the ‘economic liberalism’ theory and the ‘human security’ theory. They are derived from liberalism and traditional/ realism theories, respectively. Economic liberalism, which is derived from liberalism theory as explained above, assumes that economic openness and state interdependence go a long way in motivating the peaceful coexistence of nation-states. To that end, when states get closer through international cooperative and integrative processes, states stand to have more peaceful relations than when they are isolated, thus explaining why Gartzke (2005) asserts that economic freedom is 50 times more effective than democracy in terms of the creation of peace. Globalization is an important rudiment of the liberal economic theory, as it brings nations closer through transboundary exchanges and transfers that work towards the sustenance of global peace. Indeed, as national economies get integrated through international trade, governments tend to be more careful in their dealings with each other and always work towards the prevention of conflicts that might arise between them, thus fostering peace. To that extent, the economic liberal theory justifies and directs this study that reviews the impact of globalization on global peace and security.

Secondly, the ‘human Security’ theory is grounded on the traditional security paradigm in reference to a realist construction of security in which the referent object of security is the state, as well as a security concept that translates military threats to the safety of people and communities, thus equally fitting for this study (Tadjbakhsh & Chenoy, 2007). Tadjbakhsh and Chenoy (2007) posit further that, human security entails an extension of survival to the well-being and dignity of human beings. The Commission of Human Security under the auspices of the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (CCHA) defines human security as, “...to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfillment” (UNDP, 1994). Within this context, nations since the Cold War era have entrusted the security of their nations to a balance of power arrangement that resonates a military build-up between the United States and Russia. As Hans Morgenthau (1985) suggested, the resort to a balance of power structure by nation-states was skewed towards the prevention of any one of the two from attaining overall hegemony. Today, the traditional state-centric notion has been replaced by holistic paradigms such as cooperative, comprehensive, and collective measures that ensure the security of nations and by extension the security of individuals (Baylis 2011; Buzan & Hansen, 2009). International security within that perspective came to be premised upon the belief that if state security is maintained, then the security of humanity will naturally follow (Wohlforth, 2010).

Transboundary interactions that form the basis of globalization involve the removal of socio-cultural boundaries and economic openness between nation-states that normally yield a vast terrain of benefits for humanity. Nonetheless, transboundary interactions also have potentially grave implications on countries in many areas including peace and security (Kay, 2004). To that extent, this paper explores how globalization has impacted the peace and security of states and individuals. It finds the human security theory a very useful tool that aids the understanding of the global peace and security concept within the context of globalization. Over the years, discussions of global peace and security have continuously dominated the world stage and at global platforms such as the United Nations. Hitherto, global peace and security were traditionally conceived as involving the exclusive protection of the territorial integrity and cohesion of states, placing importance on only states (Ahmed, 2004). With time, however, this understanding came to be expanded in 1994 by the UNDP in its *Human Development Report*, where global security was conceptualized as mainly having to do with the

protection of people-- their freedoms and the creation of opportunities that enable individuals to exercise their life choices without fear or want (UNDP, 1994). Moreover, this concept of human security that covers all spheres of the existence of the human person ensures the safety and protection of people from harm and threats in their day-to-day lives. Seven key components as outlined by the UNDP (1994), underpin the human security theory as hinted above to include the following:

- i. *Economic security (e.g., assurance of a basic income);*
- ii. *Food security (e.g., access to food);*
- iii. *Health security (e.g., access to health care and protection from diseases);*
- iv. *Environmental security (e.g., protection from harmful effects of environmental degradation);*
- v. *Personal security (e.g., freedom from threats by the state, groups, or individuals);*
- vi. *Community security (e.g., freedom from harmful community practices );*
- vii. *Political security (e.g., enjoyment of human rights, and freedom from political oppression.*

Human security is thus an all-encompassing concept involving the security of states, communities, and individuals by inference. The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (2016, p. 6) states that human security entails, "...the right of people to live in freedom and dignity, free from poverty and despair." In a similar vein, the Commission on Human Security (2003, p. 4) describes human security amongst things as, "...to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfillment. The protection of people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations [as well as]...creating political, social, environmental, economic, military, and cultural systems that together give people the building blocks of survival, livelihood, and dignity."

Ahmed (2004) noted that human security views the individual as affected by both physical violence (war, pollution, environmental degradation, *etcetera*) and structural violence (poverty, hunger, repression, disease, *etcetera*), aptly explaining why human security provides a holistic understanding of international security. For these reasons, Ahmed (2004) argues further that major global processes such as globalization affect the varied aspects of human security. It is also worth noting that pandemics or diseases (such as Covid-19 and HIV/AIDS), resource depletion, poverty explosion, perpetuating inequalities, human and drug trafficking, terrorism, and climate change, among others; are some global processes that undermine our economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political security.

Furthermore, with the advent of globalization, telecommunication between states and individuals has come to spread faster and easier than before, sometimes igniting conflicts in the processes to the exacerbation and flourishing of unauthorized capitalist markets. The attendant effects of these global processes have come to include the deterioration or undermining of human security. In a way, these global processes interlink and produce reinforcing factors and sub-factors that act to undermine or erode the security of people across the globe, where the deterioration of one of the components affects the other. For example, the prevalence of food insecurity has the capability of undermining the health security and economic security of individuals which may further translate into the political, personal, community, and environmental security implications as the components are interconnected. Given the circumstances, it has been suggested that globalization is one of the factors that influenced the rethinking of the concept of security in the 1990s to include human security (Brauch, 2010; Cha, 2000).

## **VI: Methodology of the Study**

This research, which explores the impact of globalization on global peace and security, has Ghana as the study area based on convenience. The questionnaire consisted of four major closed-ended research questions as administered on google for one month from 08 January 2023 to 10 February 2023 (Kelman et al. 2022). Primary data was thus gathered across the sixteen regions of Ghana with a current population of 30.8 million people per 2021 Population and Housing Census report (Ghana Statistical Service, 2021).

### ***Research Design***

The researcher employed an exploratory quantitative research design to gather numerical data from the target audience on the phenomenon under study (Creswell 2014), consisting of a cross-sectional survey that reflects the interpretative worldview of respondents (Cohen, et al. 2018).

### ***Research Approach/Sample Size/Sampling techniques and Research Instruments***

The quantitative study, which used a questionnaire comprising four major closed-ended research questions, was administered to the larger Ghanaian population involving 627 people from diverse biographical backgrounds, across all sixteen administrative regions of the country. The questionnaire was developed and deployed in a Google document form, requiring respondents to indicate whether they strongly agree, agree, strongly disagree, or disagree with the statements contained in the instrument. The instrument was circulated for 34 days through social media platforms for respondents to fill out.

As usual in surveys like this in Ghana, the majority of 451 respondents were males representing 72.0 %, while 176 respondents represented 28.0% were females (see Table 1). The age, residential, educational, and occupational distributions of respondents are shown in Tables 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively. Additionally, the study also did a content analysis of secondary data, mainly gathered from books, journals, magazines, and internet sources; thus culminating into a high-quality database on the concept and threats of globalization on global peace and security, that significantly aided the study.

**Data Analysis**

Data systematically collected in the form of tables and figures were thematically analyzed using the survey analytics software in consonance with the quantitatively generated research questions (Braun & Clarke 2019). To ensure the validity, authenticity, and reliability of the data, the instrument was tested by two experts at the Centre for Conflict, Human Rights, and Peace Studies of the University of Education, Winneba-Ghana, confirming the content validity of the instrument that had a reliability coefficient value of 0.85 (Tavakol et al. 2008).

**Ethical considerations**

The researcher obtained ethical approval from the Departmental Academic Board of the Centre for Conflict, Human Rights, and Peace Studies of the University of Education, Winneba for the conduction of the study. In line with ethical requirements, the researcher adopted responsive practices as guided by the principles of safety, choice, collaboration, trust, and empowerment (Showkat & Parveen 2017).

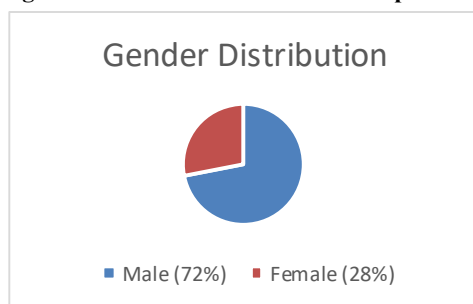
**Demographic Data of Respondents**

**Table 1: Gender Distribution of Respondents**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	451	72
Female	176	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Data, 2023

**Figure 1: Gender Distribution of Respondents**



Source: Field Data, 2023

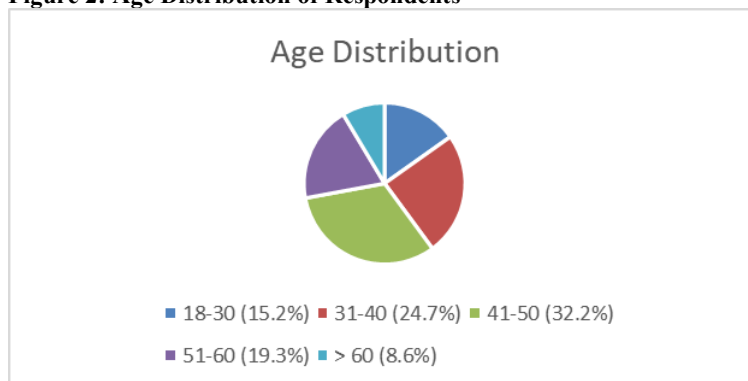
The gender distribution of participants as shown in Table 1 and Figure 1, show as follows: 451 males (72%), and 176 females (28%). Even though females are the majority in Ghana per the 2021 Population and Housing Census report (Ghana Statistical Service, 2021), they form just 28% of this survey as they usually sheer away from participating in voluntary surveys of this nature.

**Table 2: Age Distribution of Respondents**

Age Range	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-30	95	15.2
31-40	155	24.7
41-50	202	32.2
51-60	121	19.3
61 years and above	54	8.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Data, 2023

**Figure 2: Age Distribution of Respondents**



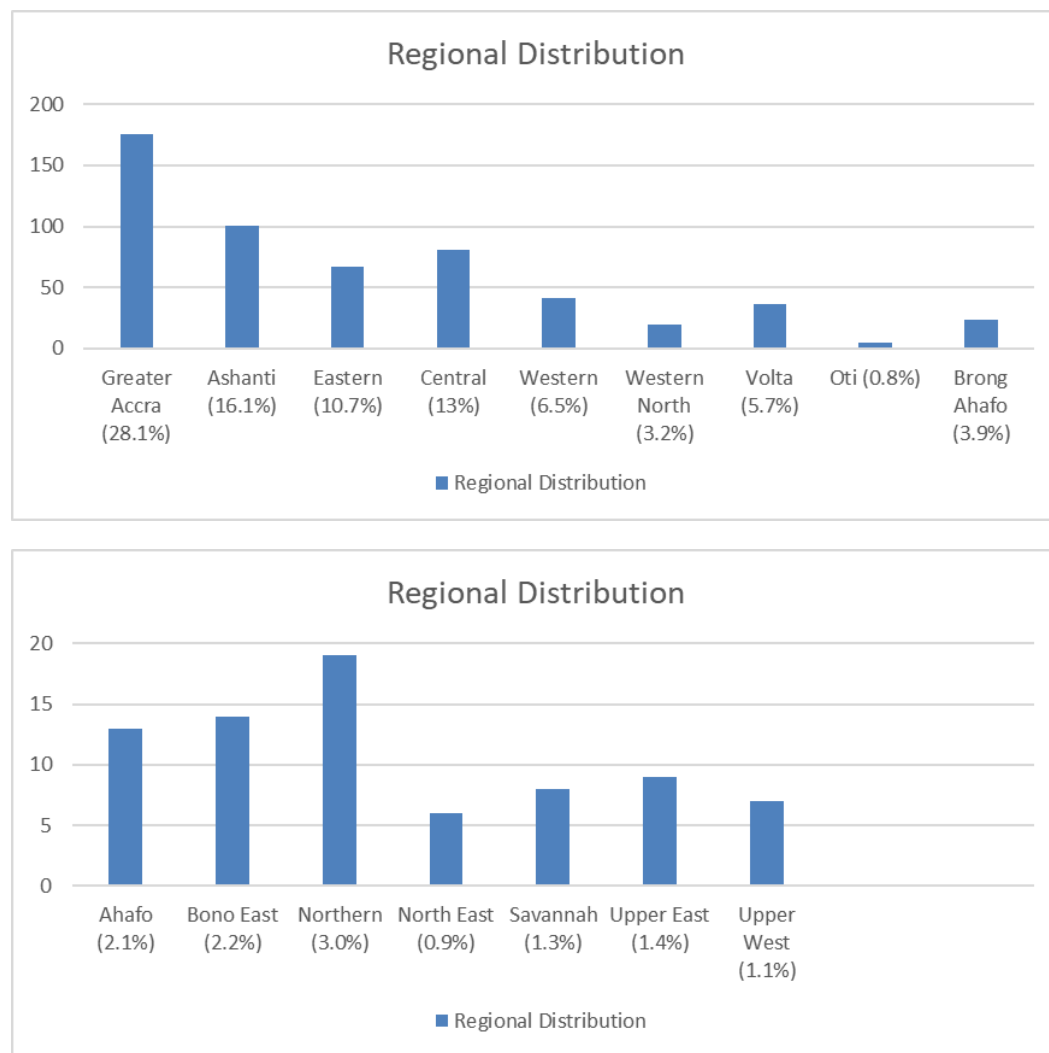
Source: Field Data, 2023

**Table 3: Regional (Residential) Distribution of Respondents**

Region	Frequency	Percentage %
Greater Accra	176	28.1
Ashanti	101	16.1
Eastern	67	10.7
Central	81	13.0
Western	41	6.5
Western North	20	3.2
Volta	36	5.7
Oti	5	0.8
Brong Ahafo	24	3.9
Ahafo	13	2.1
Bono East	14	2.2
Northern	19	3.0
North East	6	0.9
Savannah	8	1.3
Upper East	9	1.4
Upper West	7	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Data, 2023

**Figure 3: Regional (Residential) Distribution of Respondents**



Source: Field Data, 2023

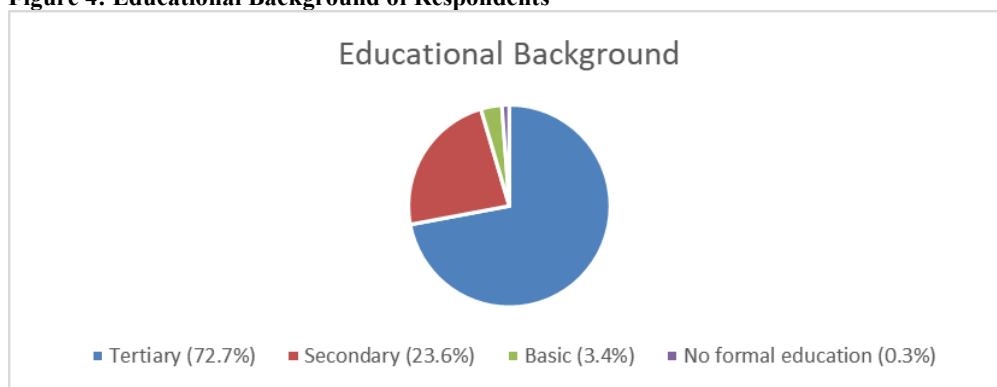
As reflected in the figures, the majority of the respondents reside in urban regions, while the minority are dwellers in rural regions. The Greater Accra Region, a metropolis has the highest number of respondents (28.1%), while the rural Oti Region has the least respondents (0.8%). Deductively, urban dwellers are more knowledgeable in the subject area, as confirmed by the high rate of respondents from urban regions in contrast with those from their rural counterparts. It has no correlation with the population figures of the regions since rural regions with greater numbers have shown fewer respondents than some urban regions that have fewer population figures.

**Table 4: Educational Background of Respondents**

Educational Level	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Tertiary	456	72.7
Secondary	148	23.6
Basic	21	3.4
No formal education	2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Data, 2023

**Figure 4: Educational Background of Respondents**



**Source:** Field Data, 2023

The majority of respondents (72.7) as reflected in Table 4 and Figure 4 have tertiary educational backgrounds, while those with no formal education (0.3%) come at the bottom. In reverence, their educational background gives them an urge on the subject matter in terms of knowledgeableability. The trend reflects in the frequencies in correspondence to the four educational levels.

**Table 5: Occupational Distribution of Respondents**

Occupation	Frequency
Student	165
Teacher	76
Unemployed	5
Military	33
Security personnel	50
National security	8
Journalist	17
Retiree	75
Minister of State	7
District Chief Executive	15
Farmer	5
Public Servant	26
Traditional ruler	8
Lecturer/Professor	35
Parliamentarian	12
Trade Unionist	4
Politician	31
Entrepreneur	18
Security Expert	6
Environmentalist	1
Lawyer	6
Human Rights Activist	4
Medical Doctor	2
Pharmacist	1
International trade expert	3
Social worker	5
Trading/Business	8
None	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>

**Source:** Field Data, 2023

Table 5 categorizes the diverse occupational profiles of the 627 respondents covering 28 occupations of which, 165 (26.3%) students constituted the majority of the respondents, followed by 76 (12.1%) teachers, and 75 (12%) retirees. The least are in the Environmentalist, Pharmacist, and None occupational categories that constitute (0.1%) each.

## VII: Discussion of Findings

**Research Objective:** To examine the nexus between globalization and peace, while exploring how globalization negatively impacts global peace and security.

**Research Question:** To what extent have the globalization processes negatively affected global peace and security?

**Hypothesis 1:** Globalization is a two-edged sword that brings both benefits and burdens to humanity.

**Hypothesis 2:** The benefits derived from the phenomenon of globalization far outweigh the negatives.

**Hypothesis 3:** Global peace and security are worse off under the growing globalization phenomenon.

### **Major Findings**

- (a) Globalization has several benefits thereby positively influencing major facets of international relations including the fostering of closer diplomatic relations, the interconnectedness of nations, technological advancement, growth of national economies, promotion of global peace and security, overall improvement in the well-being of global citizens, removal of trade and national barriers, *inter alia* (Rantanen, & Jimenez-Martinez, 2019; Steiner & Alston, 2007). As high as 90.7 percent of respondents affirm this assertion, while only 9.7% strongly disagree or agree.
- (b) There is a nexus between the two concepts of globalization and peace where the former through bilateral trade interdependence and the economic integration of countries, promotes global peace (Campbell, 2004). A slim majority of 327 respondents, representing 52.1% agreed there is a correlation between the two concepts, while 300 respondents(47.9%) think otherwise.
- (c) Globalization is a two-edged sword that does not only bring lots of benefits to humanity but also comes with its own attendant problems including, cultural distortions, human rights aberrations by multinational corporations, underdevelopment of countries of the Global South as a result of over-dependence, advancement in international crime wave in terms of their complexity, amongst others (Weidenbaum & Batterson, 2001). The survey revealed that the majority of the respondents (86.9) agree that globalization is a concept of duality, having both merits and demerits.
- (d) Benefits from globalization far outweigh its shortfalls and excesses, corroborating the assertion of Davidson, et al. (2020) that globalization by all standards has contributed more to global development. While 60.8% of respondents suggest that the benefits of globalization far outweigh the demerits, 39.2% disagree.
- (e) Warmongers and terrorists have exploited technological advancement under the globalization concept to cause global insecurity (Elman, 2008). An overwhelming majority of 82.8% of respondents affirm this assertion.
- (f) Globalization in its current state needs improvement, and this can be achieved if the international community avoids pervasive attitudes in their implementation processes in order that global peace and security are safeguarded.



**Presentation and Discussion of Results**

**Table 6: Features and the Nexus between the Globalization and Peace Concepts**

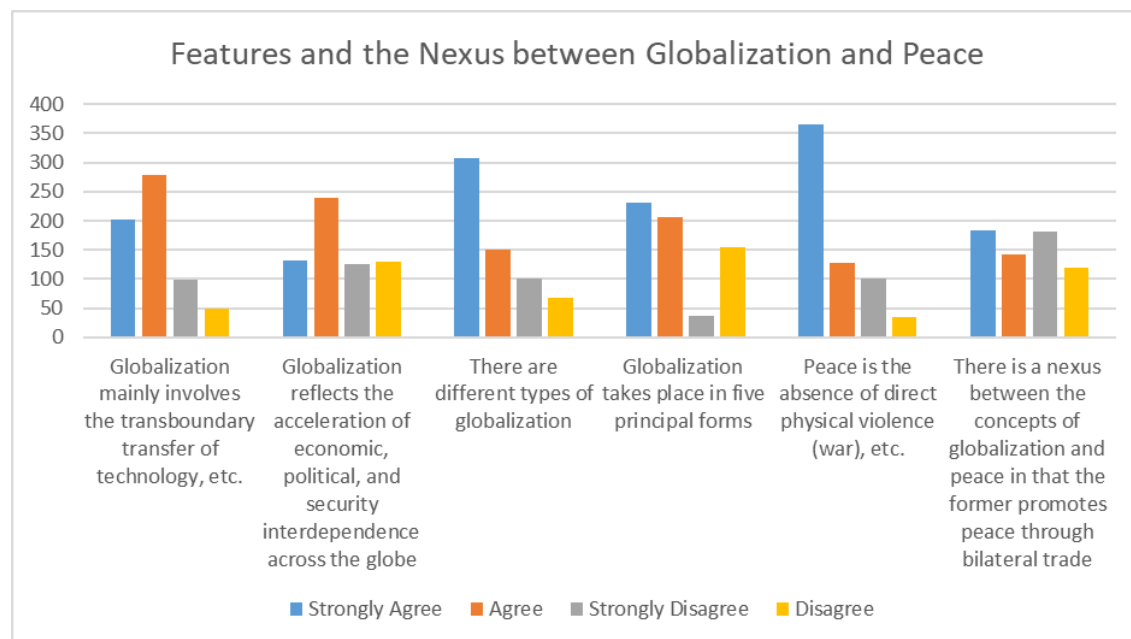
No.	Statement	% Frequency of Responses				Total
		SA	A	SD	D	
1	Globalization mainly involves the transboundary transfer of technology, goods and services, capital, and economic integration of nations	202 (32.2%)	278 (44.4%)	98 (15.6%)	49 (7.8%)	627 (100%)
2	Globalization reflects the acceleration of economic, political, and security interdependence across the globe	132 (21.1%)	240 (38.2%)	126 (20.1%)	129 (20.6%)	627 (100%)
3	There are different types of globalization--social, technological, financial, economic, political, cultural, ecological, and sociological	308 (49.1%)	151 (24.1%)	101 (16.1%)	67 (10.7%)	627 (100%)
4	Globalization takes place in five principal forms in which, nations and multinational organizations play unequal roles-international trade, direct foreign investment, capital market flows, human migration, and diffusion of technology	231 (36.8%)	206 (32.9%)	36 (5.7%)	154 (24.6%)	627 (100%)
5	Peace is the absence of direct physical violence (war), structural violence (injustice, poverty), ecological violence (pollution, overconsumption), and socio-cultural violence (racial discrimination)	365 (58.2%)	127 (20.3%)	100 (15.9%)	35 (5.6%)	627 (100%)
6	There is a nexus between the concepts of globalization and peace in that the former promotes peace through bilateral trade interdependence, and the integration of countries into the global market and ‘village’	184 (29.3%)	143 (22.8%)	181 (28.9%)	119 (19.0%)	627 (100%)

**Source:** Field Data, 2023

From their responses, it can be deduced that about 70 percent of the respondents have a good understanding of the concept of globalization, and rightly identified the features of the phenomenon to include the transboundary transfer of technology, capital, goods and services, and culture that foster economic integration among nations (Kay, 2004). To that extent, countries have become interdependent on each other, thus promoting specialization. Four hundred and fifty-three respondents (73. 2%) strongly agreed or agreed that there are at least 8 different forms of globalization namely; social, technological, financial, economic, political, cultural, ecological, and sociological globalization (Steiner & Alston, 2007). In contrast, 174 respondents (26%) strongly disagreed or disagreed that there are various forms of globalization. On a similar note, 69.7 percent of the respondents strongly agreed or agreed that nations and multinational corporations are the key movers of the globalization concept as averred by Bailey et al. (2011), while 30.3 percent or 627 respondents had a contrary view.

Similarly, at least 78.5% of respondents have knowledge of what peace is and what it is not. From their responses, peace as a term is the absence of physical violence, structural violence, and socio-cultural violence. This definition is in tandem with that given by Galtung (1995). On the issue of whether there is a nexus between the concepts of globalization and peace, respondents were almost evenly divided in their responses. While 52.1% were of the notion that there is a relationship between the two concepts, 47.9% think otherwise. According to the former, activities of globalization do promote global peace through bilateral trade interdependence and the economic integration of countries (Campbell, 2004; Davidson, et al., 2020).

**Figure 6: Features and the Nexus between Globalization and Peace**



Source: Field Data, 2023

**Table 7: Benefits Emanating from the Processes of Globalization**

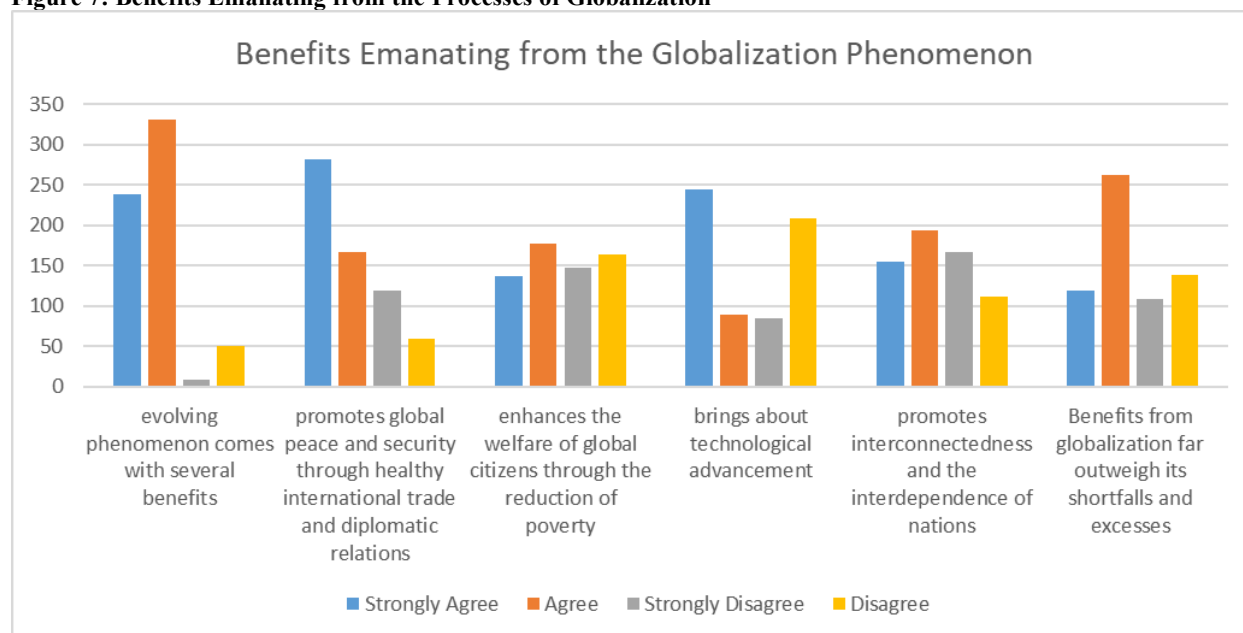
No.	Benefits	% Frequency of Responses				Total
		SA	A	SD	D	
1	Globalization as an evolving phenomenon comes with several benefits	238 (37.9%)	331 (52.8%)	8 (1.3%)	50 (8.0%)	627 (100%)
2	Globalization promotes global peace and security through healthy international trade and diplomatic relations	282 (45.0%)	167 (26.6%)	119 (19.0%)	59 (9.4%)	627 (100%)
3	Globalization enhances the welfare of global citizens through the reduction of poverty	137 (21.9%)	178 (28.4%)	148 (23.6%)	164 (26.1%)	627 (100%)
4	Globalization brings about technological advancement, thus enhancing growth and development in the fields of health, agriculture, industry, international trade, communication, transportation, and socioeconomic development	244 (39.0%)	89 (14.2%)	85 (13.5%)	209 (33.3%)	627 (100%)
5	Globalization promotes interconnectedness and the interdependence of nations	155 (24.7%)	194 (31.0%)	167 (26.6%)	111 (17.7%)	627 (100%)
6	Benefits of globalization far outweigh its shortfalls and excesses	119 (19.0%)	262 (41.8%)	108 (17.2%)	138 (22.0%)	627 (100%)

Source: Field Data, 2023

An overwhelming majority of respondents (90.4%) agree with Saker et al. (2004) that globalization has brought more blessings and development to the world than curses and discontents. According to 71.6% of the respondents, the attainment of global peace and security is one of the numerous achievements of globalization at the global scale, falling in line with what Campbell (2004) describes as one of the greatest roles of globalization. Other benefits according to the majority of the respondents include improvement in the well-being of individuals, technological advancement, socio-economic development, and advancement in the fields of

agriculture, transportation, communication, health, and international relations, amongst others (Steiner & Alston, 2007; Rantanen, & Jimenez-Martinez, 2019). There were mixed responses as to whether the benefits of globalization far outweigh the shortfalls. While 60% agreed that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages, 39.2% hold a contrary view that agrees with the assertions of Gregg (2012) and Donnelly (2013), that globalization has brought a lot of distortions to the economies of developing countries as such countries are unable to compete favorably with their developed counterparts.

**Figure 7: Benefits Emanating from the Processes of Globalization**



Source: Field Data, 2023

**Table 8: Globalization and Its Attendant Shortfalls**

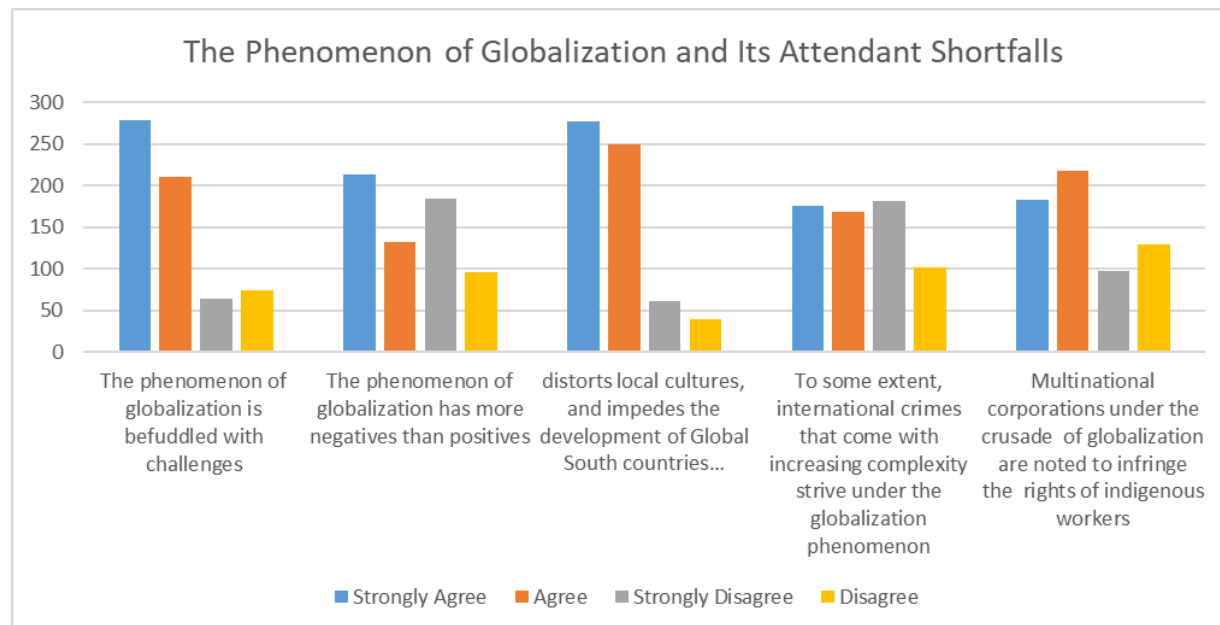
No.	Factors	% Frequency of Responses				Total
		SA	A	SD	D	
1	The phenomenon of globalization is befuddled with challenges	278 (44.3%)	211 (33.7%)	64 (10.2%)	74 (11.8%)	627 (100%)
2	The phenomenon of globalization has more negatives than positives	214 (34.1%)	132 (21.1%)	185 (29.5%)	96 (15.2%)	627 (100%)
3	Globalization distorts local cultures and impedes the development of Global South countries that are overly dependent on their Northern counterparts	277 (44.2%)	250 (39.9%)	61 (9.7%)	39 (6.2%)	627 (100%)
4	To some extent, international crimes that come with increasing complexity strive under the globalization phenomenon	176 (28.0%)	169 (27.0%)	181 (28.9%)	101 (16.1%)	627 (100%)
5	Multinational corporations under the crusade of globalization are noted to infringe on the rights of indigenous workers	183 (29.2%)	217 (34.6%)	98 (15.6%)	129 (20.6%)	627 (100%)

Source: Field Data, 2023

An overwhelming majority of 489 respondents (78%) in contrast with just 22% of respondents suggest that the phenomenon of globalization has challenges in the implementation processes as asserted by Stephens (2018), who noted that activities of the phenomenon are crippled with unceasing difficulties. The respondents, however, disagree with the suggestion that globalization has more positives than there are negatives. Some of the negatives listed are that globalization distorts local cultures, impedes the development of least endured nations, promotes

international crimes through the use of advanced technology, and that some activities of globalization have international security implications. In keeping with Baylis's (2011) submission, 63.8% of respondents alluded to the fact that multilateral corporations infringe on the rights of local workers in their quest for cheap labor.

**Figure 8: The Phenomenon of Globalization and Its Attendant Shortfalls**



Source: Field Data, 2023

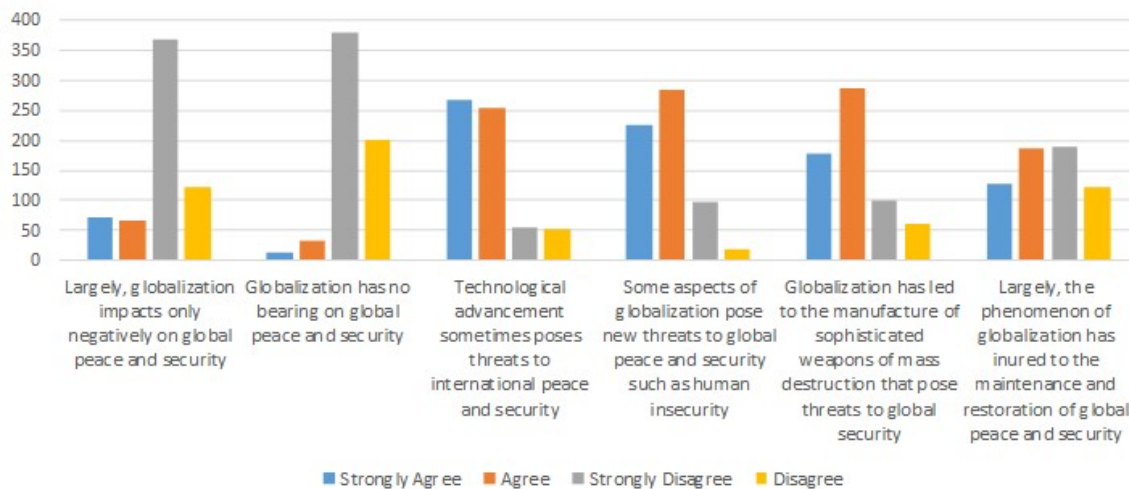
**Table 9: Implications of Globalization on Global Peace and Security**

No.	Implication	% Frequency of Responses				Total
		SA	A	SD	D	
1	Largely, globalization impacts only negatively on global peace and security	71 (11.3%)	66 (10.5%)	367 (58.5%)	123 (19.7%)	627 (100%)
2	Globalization has no bearing on global peace and security	14 (2.2%)	32 (5.1%)	380 (60.6%)	201 (32.1%)	627 (100%)
3	Technological advancement under the guise of globalization sometimes poses threats to international peace and security as terrorists and warmongers use technology to destabilize nations and engage in violent activities against humanity	267 (42.6%)	252 (40.2%)	56 (8.9%)	52 (8.3%)	627 (100%)
4	Some aspects of globalization pose new threats to global peace and security such as human insecurity, human trafficking, social injustice, and environmental degradation; threatening social cohesion at both national and international levels	226 (36.1%)	283 (45.1%)	98 (15.6%)	20 (3.2%)	627 (100%)
5	Globalization has led to the manufacture of sophisticated weapons of mass destruction that pose threats to global security as humanity stands being wiped out with the least mistake	179 (28.5%)	288 (46.0%)	99 (15.8%)	61 (9.7%)	627 (100%)
6	Largely, the phenomenon of globalization has inured to the maintenance and restoration of global peace and security	127 (20.3%)	187 (29.8%)	190 (30.3%)	123 (19.6%)	627 (100%)

Source: Field Data, 2023

**Figure 9: Implications of Globalization on Global Peace and Security**

### Implications of Globalization on Global Peace and Security



Source: Field Data, 2023

As to whether globalization largely affects global peace and security only negatively, an overwhelming majority of 490 (78.1%) of the 627 respondents answered in the negative, and a more overwhelming majority of respondents (92.4%) disagree globalization has no bearing on global peace and security. These revelations are in keeping with Ahmed’s (2004) submission that activities of globalization have always had an effect on international security either in a positive or negative light. The survey, however, revealed that some activities under the guise of globalization pose new threats to global security such as terrorism, human trafficking, environmental degradation, diseases, and human insecurity (Elman, 2008).

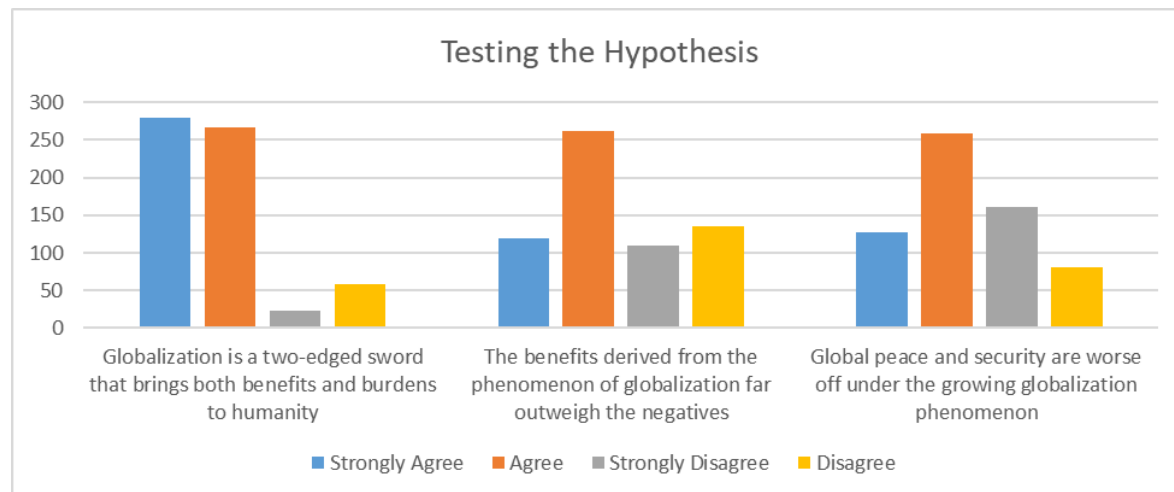
The study further affirms that the stockpile of weapons of mass destruction under the guise of globalization is a threat to global peace and security, as humanity stands to be wiped out by the slightest of mistakes (Morgan, 2007). Against this backdrop, one’s mind is easily drawn to the Russian-Ukraine war and the Syrian crisis where weapons of mass destruction are used, reminiscent of the two World Wars that brought untold hardships upon humanity. Overall, a slim majority of 50.1% of respondents believe globalization has inured to the promotion of global peace and security, while 49.9% think otherwise as suggested by Kay (2004).

Table 10: Testing the Hypotheses

No.	Hypothesis	% Frequency of Responses				Total
		SA	A	SD	D	
1	Globalization is a two-edged sword that brings both benefits and burdens to humanity	279 (44.5%)	266 (42.4%)	23 (3.7%)	59 (9.4%)	627 (100%)
2	The benefits derived from the phenomenon of globalization far outweigh the negatives	119 (19.0%)	262 (41.8%)	110 (17.5%)	136 (21.7%)	627 (100%)
3	Global peace and security are worse off under the growing globalization phenomenon	127 (20.3%)	258 (41.1%)	161 (25.7%)	81 (12.9%)	627 (100%)

Source: Field Data, 2023

**Figure 10: Testing the Hypotheses**



Source: Field Data, 2023

### Hypothesis 1

The test reveals that 86.9 percent of respondents overwhelmingly agree that globalization is actually a two-edged sword that cuts from both sides to that end bringing both benefits and burdens to humanity in its implementation (Davidson, et al., 2020; Weidenbaum & Batterson, 2001). The author accepts the result that is in keeping with the worldview since the phenomenon has inured to global development amidst the shortfalls.

### Hypothesis 2

The response was a mixed one where a majority of 60.8 percent of respondents agree that the benefits derived from globalization far exceed the burdens imposed on humanity and nations, while 39.2 percent disagree (Brauch, 2010; Saker et al., 2004). The author associates with the slim majority to the extent that globalization has given more to the world than it has taken.

### Hypothesis 3

Three-hundred and eighty-five respondents representing 61.4 percent of respondents strongly agree or agree that global peace and security are worse off under the growing globalization phenomenon, while 38.6 strongly disagree or disagree. From the data, therefore, it is the view of respondents that global peace stands to suffer under the current globalization arrangement. The author holds a contrary view since globalization in bringing nations closer through bilateral international trade, fosters peace among nations, which they stand to protect (Aiginger & Handler, 2017).

### Conclusions

In spite of the benefits associated with the concept of globalization, the phenomenon is nonetheless, generating conditions that threaten global peace and security and therefore human security. The Covid-19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukraine war, represent classic cases of the threat of globalization to global peace and security, as the two have led to the loss of lives, brought about the breakdown of economies, instigated poverty explosion, influenced the widening of inequality and the exacerbation of unemployment across the globe in such a swift manner (United Nations, 2020). While the Covid-19 pandemic was orchestrated through advanced technology under the guise of globalization, the Russian-Ukraine conflict is equally fuelled by the use of sophisticated weapons. Indeed, these developments in the end have adversely affected and are still undermining human security.

These apart, globalization is presenting new threats to global peace and security, as well as, individual security in an unprecedented manner in terms of terrorist activities, refugeeism, human trafficking, environmental degradation, cyber-related crimes, and activities of international institutions that come on the back of globalization. It is against the backdrop of these grave implications that Ezcurra and Manotas (2014) submit that an in-depth evaluation that leads to an understanding of the impact of globalization would enable us to deal with the difficulties it presents.

The author associates with the assertion of Ezcurra and Manotas (2014) since it is never fitting to ‘throw the baby away with the dirty bathwater’, so as not to engage in the error where in an attempt to get rid of something bad, the good thing is destroyed alongside. The world at this stage must walk a thin line, deciphering between safeguarding the gains made under globalization and at the same time replacing, eliminating, or minimizing the effects with the agency that it deserves.

### Where Do We Go From Here?

For a start, the author agrees with Cha (2000) that our perceptions of global security in relation to current events must necessarily change in order to corroborate the Ghanaian adage that states, “*It takes an overly intelligent dog to catch an overly smart rabbit*”. This must happen within the context of “strategic thinking and deterrence”, where the world must learn to avoid pervasive attitudes in the implementation of the phenomenon of globalization. Again, the world must avoid taking hasty policy decisions when engaging in new ways that stand to turn around the negatives associated with globalization. Furthermore, the United Nations together with countries of the developed Global North must necessarily spearhead the reformation agenda, where governments, multinational corporations, communities, and individuals are obliged to adhere to the rules of best practices.

In the long term, however, the international community under the direction of the United Nations Security Council must regulate and stiffly sanction companies and countries that engage in the production and transfer of injurious goods and services, as well as, those that indulge in activities that plaque global peace and security. These measures will largely safeguard global peace and security. To that extent, globalization will be interpenetrating both domestic and foreign affairs in a manner that compels governments to be innovative in terms of their national security calculations, thus tending to cooperate with sub-state and transnational partners instead of traditional allies (Cha, 2000). These processes are necessary because as Colombo (2004) observed, global security may keep on changing as new processes of globalization emerge.

Lastly, the resolution of global conflicts calls for multi-strand approaches and remedies that will go a long way in eradicating complexities, including insecurities that are induced by activities of globalization. Some of the suggested approaches have socio-politico-economic underpinnings, involving the promotion of gender equality, the equitable distribution of global wealth, environmental protection, arms sale control, the formulation and implementation of policy directives that address exigencies of the time, and the management of risks that associated with the globalization phenomenon (Cirdei, 2019). The international community must vigorously embrace these approaches in the current circumstances.

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