# The emerging new Globalization and the War in Ukraine: A Complex Interplay of Politics, Economy and Society

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The article analyzes the impact of globalization on the war in Ukraine and the war's reciprocal influence on the international system, economy, and society. The conflict is viewed as a critical juncture in the reordering of the world system, accelerating trends toward deglobalization and intensifying the confrontation between democratic and autocratic blocs. The research is based on the phenomenological method and systems analysis, supplemented by the methodology of process sociology (specifically, Norbert Elias's theory of functional democratization). This sociological approach allows the war to be analyzed not only as a geopolitical conflict but also as a consequence of the gradual breakdown of Russia's integration with the West and its entanglement with alternative global structures. The author demonstrates that the events of the war in Ukraine definitively proved the groundlessness of the presumption "globalization equals democratization," as not all states are prepared to espouse democratic values. The analysis also revealed profound economic and social consequences of the conflict: Economic: Global surges in energy and food prices, disruption of supply chains, acceleration of economic decoupling between the West, Russia, and China, and increased fragmentation of the world economy. Social: The largest migration crisis in Europe since World War II, massive casualties, and the fueling of heightened nationalism and polarization of public consciousness worldwide. The author emphasizes the necessity of revising the theoretical foundations of economic and security policy in the face of a new, less predictable global paradigm.

### **KEYWORDS**

globalization, War in Ukraine, Deglobalization, World Order, Economic

Consequences, Social Consequences, Multipolar World

#### Introduction

In modern scientific analysis, globalization is considered as one of the most influential and significant factors in the development of human civilization, within which multi-directional trends interact, including systemic shifts in the systems of independent states.

Reflecting on the problem, it is important to focus on the fact that, despite the generally recognized – not only in the scientific community, but also at the level of everyday consciousness – the systemic impact of globalization on all spheres of human society, the problematic aspects of this phenomenon remain insufficiently studied precisely due to its dynamic nature and constantly attract the attention of scientists.

The intertwining of geopolitical, geoeconomic, informational, communication, technological and social trends that are derived from globalization creates the prospect of total transformations in social practices and individual lifestyles. This means that the results of globalization concern most representatives of human civilization.

It is quite clear that the events of the full-scale war launched in Ukraine by the Russian Federation have actualized the study of globalization issues in view of the significance of the events of this war for the entire world community. The analysis of the impact of globalization on the political, social and economic system of Ukraine in modern conditions is all the more relevant.

Globalization is a complex, multifaceted process that has reshaped the economic, political, social, and cultural landscapes of the modern world. It involves the intensification of cross-border interactions and interdependencies among states, corporations, individuals, and institutions. As defined by the Oxford English Dictionary, globalization is "the action, process, or fact of making global; especially the process by which businesses or other organizations develop international influence or start operating on an international scale" (*Oxford University press, n.d.*). This process is characterized by the expansion of international trade, capital flows, migration, communication technologies, and cultural exchanges.

The benefits of globalization are evident in the unprecedented economic growth, technological progress, and cultural interconnectivity it has facilitated. Globalization has contributed to lifting millions out of poverty, enabling rapid innovation, and fostering cooperation on transnational challenges such as climate change and public health crises. However, this process is not without its challenges. It has also intensified economic inequalities both within and between nations, undermined national sovereignty as supranational entities and multinational corporations gain influence, and led to cultural homogenization that threatens local identities (*Romero-Vidal*, 2023).

Moreover, globalization's interconnectedness has created new vulnerabilities. Economic shocks, pandemics,





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and conflicts can now spread rapidly across borders, destabilizing global systems. The war in Ukraine starkly exemplifies these vulnerabilities, revealing how geopolitical conflicts can disrupt global supply chains, financial markets, and international cooperation frameworks (*Neumann*, 2023). This war thus serves as a critical lens through which the contradictions and fragilities of globalization can be examined.

Taking into account the fact that globalization is a global social process that includes flows of ideas, capital. goods, scientific and technological achievements, political norms and standards, legislation that determine the development of the world as an integral economic, international legal, political, socio-cultural supersystem (Encyclopedia of Law, 1998), it is important to focus on the fact that at present most researchers consider the processes of globalization to be ambiguous, as combining negative and positive trends for humanity. An analysis of the geopolitical and economic consequences of the war in Ukraine was published on the UNDP global website (Molina et al., 2022). Among other findings of this analysis, it was highlighted that the war in Ukraine has caused a tremendous loss of life and livelihoods, putting stress on the economy, and forcing millions of people to leave their homes. As the fighting continues, the negative repercussions ripple across Ukraine, the region and the world.

In our opinion, these commitments indicate the confirmation (at least "de jure") of the recognition of the "potential" of the globalization paradigm and the awareness of their universal value in the context of the war in Ukraine.

**The purpose of the article.** To analyze the problem of the impact of globalization on the war in Ukraine and to conduct an analytical review of the interaction of these processes on society, economy and political processes.

### Research methods

The research is based on the phenomenological method of studying the Understanding Globalization in the Contemporary World.

The method of systems analysis was used to create a theoretical framework for the study. Process sociology offers a valuable framework for analyzing the war in Ukraine by emphasizing long-term social change and evolving interdependencies. This approach highlights how shifting power relations and social functions contribute to conflict dynamics beyond immediate political causes (Koutsoukis, 2023). According to this perspective, the war reflects a gradual breakdown of Russia's integration with Western political, economic, and cultural systems, alongside new alignments with alternative global powers such as China (Open Democracy, 2023). Norbert Elias's theory of functional democratization is particularly relevant here. Elias described a historical process in which societies evolve through narrowing power differentials, diversification of social roles, and the emergence of new social bonds that reshape political organization (Elias, 1970). In the context of the Ukraine war, Russia's disengagement from Western functional systems represents a form of disentanglement, while its growing ties with China indicate entanglement with alternative global structures. These processes reflect broader transformations in global social functions and power relations (Koutsoukis, 2023).

Elias also emphasized the emotional and social dimensions of political change. The war disrupts existing social orders and identities, fueling heightened nationalism, polarization, and challenges in building inclusive, peaceful communities. The lag between structural shifts and the formation of collective identities contributes to conflict and resistance (*Revise Sociology, 2022*). This sociological lens thus enriches understanding by integrating emotional, social, and structural factors shaping the war. An important method of obtaining data for our research is the method of collecting and analyzing information from open sources, including reports sociological surveys, materials of research on Globalization and the War in Ukraine: A Complex Interplay of Politics, Society, and Economy.

#### **Results and Discussion**

### The War in Ukraine: Geopolitical Context and Interpretations

The Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 is widely interpreted as a pivotal geopolitical conflict that reflects deeper tensions in the international order. One dominant interpretation frames the war as a confrontation between democracy and autocracy. Ukraine, aspiring to consolidate its democratic institutions and integrate with Western political and security structures, stands in opposition to Russia's autocratic regime, which asserts imperial ambitions reminiscent of historical Russian expansionism. This dichotomy resonates with broader debates in international relations between realist and liberal perspectives (Johnson, 2023). Realists emphasize power politics, spheres of influence, and strategic calculations, while liberals highlight the importance of democracy promotion and adherence to international norms. As V. Koziuk rightly notes "intellectual elites in many countries counted on the fact that democratization would be the hidden good that would increase global stability due to the spread of globalization." (Koziuk, 2022). That is, guided by economic considerations and interests, these elites counted on the presumption "globalization equals democratization", since such a presumption was "convenient" from both political and economic points of view.

In practice, the events of the Russian war in Ukraine have finally proved the doctrinal inconsistency of some legal fictions and presumptions underlying the paradigm of globalization (but not globalization in general). In particular, it can be argued that the absolutization of the presumption "globalization equals democratization" is groundless. It is necessary to clearly realize that the previously widespread assumption about the global irreversible progress of mankind towards democracy, the fullest possible realization of human rights and the rule of law was somewhat exaggerated, since not all states of the modern world are ready to profess and defend the values of democracy.

Another important dimension is the legacy of historical imperialism. Russia's actions evoke echoes of nineteenth-century imperial expansion, challenging the post-Cold War international order that sought to establish rules-based global governance (*Swed, 2023*). This historical perspective helps contextualize Russian motivations but also risks oversimplifying the complex socio-political dynamics at play.

Debates over responsibility for the conflict remain contentious. Some analysts attribute the war primarily to President Vladimir Putin's imperialist ambitions and desire to restore Russia's perceived lost greatness and control over former Soviet territories. Others argue that NATO's eastward expansion provoked Russian insecurity and aggressive responses. Additionally, domestic political considerations within Russia, including regime survival strategies,

shape its foreign policy decisions (*Thompson, 2022; Chandler, 2022*). These competing explanations, while insightful, often overlook the deeper, long-term social and structural processes influencing the conflict

## The War's Impact on Globalization and the World Economy

The war in Ukraine has had profound consequences for globalization, particularly through disruptions to global supply chains and economic stability. Ukraine and Russia are critical suppliers of essential commodities. Russia is a major exporter of oil and natural gas, especially to Europe, while Ukraine is a key global supplier of wheat, corn, and sunflower oil. Both countries also provide vital raw materials and metals used in manufacturing (*Caldara et al., 2022; NIESR, 2023*).

The conflict and resulting sanctions have triggered energy price spikes and volatility, food shortages, and interruptions in manufacturing and trade flows. These disruptions have contributed to surging global inflation, threatening economic growth and political stability worldwide (*Ruta, 2023*). European economies face recession risks amid energy shortages, while developing countries struggle with food insecurity and fiscal pressures (*NIESR, 2023*).

In this context, the current war will have multiple consequences in world markets, as well as on food supplies, which will be strained in many countries, especially in low-income countries that depend on food imports, as well as in vulnerable populations. Joint and coordinated action is needed, as well as financial assistance, to address the challenges currently facing countries and people in greatest difficulty and to mitigate the impact of the conflict on food security globally.

The heavy economic losses from the conflict and increased uncertainty add to the challenges that governments are already facing due to rising inflationary pressures and an unbalanced post-pandemic recovery. Faced with negative supply shocks caused by high commodity prices of uncertain duration and magnitude, monetary policy must continue to ensure that inflation expectations are firmly anchored and intervene if necessary to ensure the proper functioning of financial markets. Where possible, temporary, rapid and targeted fiscal measures are the best solution to mitigate the direct impact of the crisis on consumers and businesses, in particular when rising inflation reduces room for monetary policy space. Regulatory measures aimed at improving market organization to improve energy security and competitiveness can also help reduce the vulnerability of the economy to certain energy market disturbances in the short and long term

In response, the war has accelerated trends toward deglobalization. Countries are increasingly seeking to regionalize supply chains, reduce dependence on adversarial states, and strengthen regional cooperation. Economic decoupling is evident as Western nations reduce ties with Russia and, increasingly, China. Technological rivalry over critical sectors such as semiconductors and 5G infrastructure has intensified, challenging the post-Cold War global economic order and raising prospects for a more fragmented world economy (Algarni, 2023; Vlados, Chatzinikolaou, 2024).

### International Support for Ukraine

Great Britain and France (as one of the leaders of the European Union) play perhaps the most significant roles in updating the European security system, involving Ukraine for such a mission, actually cooperating with it as a full member of NATO. This determines the main subject of

consideration in this publication – the importance of the partnership of these two countries for the newest system of the European political and economic space with the participation of Ukraine.

It is worth noting that European support for Ukraine increased significantly from European countries in March-April 2025, with Europe allocating €10.4 billion in military aid and €9.8 billion in humanitarian and financial aid in just two months (Kiel Institute for the World Economy, 2025). This is the highest total figure for any two-month period since the beginning of the war.

The United Kingdom has played a significant role in supporting Ukraine through both military and non-military aid. The UK government has committed approximately £13 billion in military assistance, including advanced weapons systems such as drones, tanks, and air defense technologies. Operation INTERFLEX has trained over 54,000 Ukrainian soldiers, enhancing the country's defense capabilities. The UK has also supported the development of bespoke defense technologies and provided maintenance and repair services for military equipment (*UK Support to Ukraine Factsheet, 2025*).

Non-military aid totaling £5 billion includes fiscal support through World Bank loan guarantees, humanitarian assistance exceeding £477 million, and funding for reconstruction projects aimed at infrastructure repair and energy resilience. Trade agreements facilitating duty-free exports have also been established to support Ukraine's economic recovery (UK Support to Ukraine Factsheet, 2025).

Sanctions imposed by the UK target over 2,500 individuals, entities, and vessels linked to Russia's war effort, focusing on energy and financial sectors to curtail funding for the invasion. These measures have significantly reduced Russia's revenue streams and constrained its military capabilities (UK Support to Ukraine Factsheet, 2025).

At the global level, the United Nations coordinates large-scale humanitarian aid, providing food, water, shelter, and medical care to millions affected by the conflict. UNICEF focuses on protecting children through education, psychosocial support, and rehabilitation of schools and health facilities. Despite these efforts, humanitarian needs continue to grow amid ongoing violence and resource limitations (How the UN is Supporting the People of Ukraine, 2023; Protecting Children in Ukraine, 2023).

### The War in Ukraine as a Turning Point in Global Politics and Society

The global political and economic environment is changing at such a high pace, such unprecedented challenges are being formed that countries and communities of the world do not have time to respond to them properly, which in turn makes it impossible to take effective measures to counteract destructive and crisis manifestations.

Today, we analyze world events and processes within the framework of the Ukrainian-centric model. The current strategic doctrine of the development of the European Union is focused on maintaining a just and stable multilateral order, where the principles and provisions of the UN Charter, including the inadmissibility of the seizure of the territory of sovereign countries and the unconditionality of universally recognized principles of international law, are the main organizing prescriptions and principles.

However, the acceleration of global transformations, a significant part of which is destructive, requires the renewal of European doctrine (*Besch*, 2025). Among the key innovations that were formed actually under the influence of

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Ukraine's struggle for freedom and independence against Russian aggression, the following stand out:

- The European Union, and the whole of democratic Europe, must become more politically and economically integrated;
- The European Union should strengthen state and interstate institutions, preserving values and unity, but adjusting the consensus approach to the development and implementation of decisions;
- democratic Europe, including non-EU countries, should be able to defend itself with much less US support than it (Europe) has had since the end of World War II, than to achieve "European defense independence from the US".

It should be recognized that the European Union is not only aware of the risks and challenges, but is already (periodically anticipating, but in most cases, unfortunately, still slowing down) intensifying the transformations that are changing the European Union and are a sign of the current contradictory time (*Draghi*, 2024):

- the war in Europe due to the illegal Russian aggression against Ukraine is an existential challenge not only for Ukraine, but for the whole of Europe, and it is this challenge that is the main prism through which Europeans (including Ukrainians) assess global trends;
- The European Union has radically changed the vision of the security and defense system, including with the aim of achieving greater independence to protect European civilization:
- The European Union has intensified political and diplomatic efforts within the framework of a geopolitical approach to reduce the hardships of the trade war and prevent the spread of crisis risks to global economic processes

It should be noted that the European Union in the new conditions even openly denies its "senior" strategic partner. Thus, the US Administration would like to quickly stop the war in Ukraine through territorial concessions, the lifting of sanctions against Russia, and the acceleration of "peace" negotiations. However, civilized Europe does not accept this approach, does not force Kyiv to an undesirable settlement.

The war in Ukraine represents a critical juncture in the reordering of the international system. It accelerates the decline of unipolarity and liberal internationalism, giving rise to competing blocs that pit Western democracies against autocratic alliances. This shift challenges the efficacy of multilateralism and international law, generating uncertainty and competition over global governance, security, and economic norms.

Sociologically, the conflict reinforces national identities and solidarity within Ukraine while increasing repression and propaganda within Russia. It exposes the fragility of global social bonds and the slow emergence of inclusive global identities necessary for peaceful coexistence (*Thompson*, 2022).

In the social sphere, Ukraine's objective vulnerability to hybrid threats was the crisis of the social model of Ukrainian society, the main cause of which is the post-Soviet transformation of the social structure of society, which is characterized by colossal property inequality of the population of Ukraine, which is accompanied by a deep differentiation of the social and spiritual-value matrix throughout the entire period of its independence. In the economic sphere, Ukraine is characterized by weak macroeconomic indicators and a high level of external debt, which, together with significant offshoring of property in Ukraine, which cre-

ates risks of manipulation by the political elite both in financial resources (offshore, transfer of debts to the state budget) and support from Ukraine's Western partners, maintaining the presence of Russian banks in Ukraine, which continue to control a significant part of the finances of businesses and citizens, provoke the threat of external economic influence on the activities of Ukrainian industrial enterprises and the manipulation of public opinion by large labor collectives.

The events of the war in Ukraine show the whole world the terrible angles of the "distorted interaction" of Russia's politics and legal system. That is why, realizing the objective and necessary nature of the interaction of politics and law both within national legal systems and at the level of the global legal order, we consider it appropriate to focus on the need to comply with universal legal principles in the implementation of state and international policy.

Looking forward, the war invites reflection on how to build more resilient and equitable global systems. Addressing democratic deficits, social inequalities, and strengthening international institutions are essential to managing interdependence peacefully. The future of globalization may depend on reconciling national interests with global cooperation to prevent further conflicts and foster sustainable peace (Linklater, 2011; Hobson, 2015). The war in Ukraine serves as a stark reminder of globalization's contradictions and vulnerabilities. It highlights the importance of understanding long-term social processes, power dynamics, and emotional dimensions that shape international relations (Shust et al., 2023: 242). Sustained international support, innovative diplomacy, and inclusive social rebuilding are crucial to navigating this crisis and fostering a more stable and just global order. As the world faces the challenge of a fragmented global system, the lessons from Ukraine underscore the urgent need to rethink globalization in ways that promote peace, equity, responsibility (Kresina et al., 2020: 578) and resilience.

### Conclusion

The Russian-Ukrainian war is a complex and multifaceted conflict that arose at the intersection of geopolitical, political, economic and social factors. By highlighting the main interpretations of globalization, namely: as a permanent historical process, the openness of the borders of nation states, the process of world universalization and unification, in fact, we can witness the formation of a new paradigm. Thus, among the basic factors of the modern globalization process, one can single out fundamental changes in the mass media and communication, the internationalization of economic life in the world, the problems of international crime and terrorism, and most importantly - the problems of war and peace. the tendency to form a multipolar world order, etc.

The Russian-Ukrainian war has profound geopolitical consequences that affect the restructuring of international relations and the formation of a new world order. The war caused major changes in global security, economic relations, alliances and political conflicts. The Russian-Ukrainian war has led to a significant strengthening of NATO's role as a key security alliance. Allies have increased their military budgets, strengthened their presence in Eastern Europe and increased cooperation with countries directly facing the threat posed by Russia. The war is changing the world order, causing changes in the security system, energy resources and the global economy.

In response to the current transformational challenges, the question arises about the need to search for fundamentally new theoretical foundations for the formation of an effective economic policy. Ideas about the collapse of capitalism, the global economy, existing political systems, and even civilization have become very popular. The Russia-Ukrainian war is having a significant impact on the global economy due to a number of factors related to energy, food, financial markets, and global trade.

The Russian-Ukrainian war has a deep social dimension, which manifests itself at the level of society both in Ukraine and at the global level. The impact of the war on social processes covers a wide spectrum, including demographic change, humanitarian crisis, changes in public consciousness, social solidarity, as well as migration and refugee processes. The war caused numerous casualties among both the military and the civilian population. The destruction of infrastructure, residential buildings, schools, hospitals and other facilities has led to enormous suffering for millions of Ukrainians. The war caused the largest migration crisis in Europe since World War II.

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### Ера нової глобалізації та війна в Україні: складне переплетення політики, економіки та суспільства

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У статті аналізується вплив глобалізації на війну в Україні та її зворотний вплив на міжнародну систему, економіку й суспільство. Війна розглядається як критичний момент у переформатуванні світового порядку, який прискорює тенденції до деглобалізації та посилює конфронтацію між демократичними й автократичними блоками. Дослідження базується на феноменологічному методі та системному аналізі, що доповнені методологією процесної соціології (зокрема, теорією функціональної демократизації Норберта Еліаса). Використання цього соціологічного підходу дозволяє розглядати війну не лише як геополітичний конфлікт, а й як наслідок поступового розпаду інтеграції Росії із Заходом та її зв'язку з альтернативними глобальними структурами. Авторка доводить, що події війни в Україні остаточно довели безпідставність презумпції «глобалізація дорівнює демократизації», оскільки не всі держави готові сповідувати цінності демократії. Проведений аналіз також дозволив виявити глибокі економічні та соціальні наслідки конфлікту: 1) глобальне зростання цін на енергоносії та продовольство, порушення ланцюгів постачання, прискорення економічного роз'єднання Заходу з Росією та Китаєм, посилення фрагментації світової економіки; 2) найбільша міграційна криза в Європі з часів Другої світової війни, численні жертви, посилення націоналізму і поляризація суспільної свідомості в усьому світі. Авторка підкреслює необхідність перегляду теоретичних основ економічної та безпекової політики в умовах нової, менш передбачуваної глобальної парадигми.

**Ключові слова:** глобалізація, війна в Україні, деглобалізація, світовий порядок, економічні наслідки, соціальні наслідки, багатополярний світ.

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