

Global interactions

IB DP Geography HL extension global interactions full package

1. Global interactions at a glance

Global interactions at a glance

IB Geography HL extension: global interactions - power, places and networks; human development and diversity; global risks and resilience - the core read as a network of flows, power relations, development and diversity, and the risks and governance that answer them.

Must-know: the four flows with exports about a quarter of world output and 60-plus percent of humanity online; nodes and links with position as power; core-semi-periphery-periphery; TNCs and outsourcing with the remittances-exceed-FDI counter-flow; HDI and GII; homogenisation versus glocalisation; the 2020 minus 3 percent pandemic shock; chokepoints and supply-chain fragility; UN, WTO, civil society and the 17 SDGs.

2. Power, places and networks

Power, places and networks

Flows bind places: goods (exports about a quarter of world output), capital, information, people. Networks have nodes (hub cities) and links (routes, cables, corridors); position compounds advantage - power lives in the network. Core, semi-periphery and periphery organise functions: command in the core, materials and routine labour at the edges.

The TNC coordinates across borders: outsourcing relocates routine work while headquarters keep research, branding and profit. But flows run both ways: emerging-economy TNCs invest outward, and remittances to low- and middle-income countries exceed their FDI receipts - power is contested, not simply imposed.

3. Development and diversity

Development and diversity

Development is multidimensional: the HDI (health, schooling, income, 0 to 1) and the Gender Inequality Index measure what GDP misses; capability - the freedoms people have - reframes the debate. Transfers follow need and kinship too: remittances and aid.

Diversity under interaction: homogenisation pushes the same brands everywhere; cultures answer with glocalisation (the global adapted to the local) and indigenous reassertion protecting language, land and knowledge. Languages are diversity's extinction curve.

4. Risks and governance

Risks and governance

Risks cross borders faster than policy: pandemic (2020 world GDP about minus 3 percent), financial contagion, geopolitical conflict, climate. Interconnection amplifies - the same networks that carry trade carry risk: one chokepoint closed and distant production stops (supply-chain fragility).

Resilience at every scale: supplier diversification and stockpiles (state), redundancy and rerouting (network), savings and social protection (household). Above states: global governance - the UN system, WTO rules, treaties - with civil society naming risks; the 17 SDGs are the shared scoreboard premised on collective action.

Check yourself

Check yourself

The four flows with their figures; nodes, links and position-as-power.

Core, semi-periphery, periphery by function; TNC division of labour; the two counter-flows.

HDI dimensions and the GII; capability; homogenisation versus glocalisation with examples.

The four risk families with 2020 minus 3 percent; chokepoint mechanics; resilience at three scales; UN, WTO, civil society and the 17 SDGs.