

2. Inequality, Globalization, and their Effects on Contemporary Society

Partner countries – Germany, Netherlands, France, United Kingdom, Sweden, Switzerland, México, Portugal, Australia, Belgium, Spain, United States, New Zealand, Italy, Argentina, South Africa, China, Canada, Finland, Japan, Denmark.

Graduation Courses – Administration; Anthropology; Chemistry; Law; Ecology; Economics; Education; Information Science; Informatics; Geography; Human and Health Development; International Relations; Linguistics; Literature; Mathematics; Political Science; Social Policy; Sociology; Social, Occupational, and Organizational Psychology; Sustainable Development.

Globalization is a multidimensional phenomenon (covering economic, social, political, and cultural spheres) that is significantly changing the way individuals, institutions, businesses, and states are organized and interrelate, while also having great impacts on the Earth. Some of these transformations tend to reinforce and deepen existing inequalities or generate new forms of asymmetry. In this context, it is worth addressing inequality not only as an empirical problem, but primarily as an analytical key for understanding the transformations underway in the world, paying attention to current power relations in local and global contexts. On a national scale, reconfigurations can be observed within institutions (political parties, public entities, regulatory systems) and in attitudes and behaviors, with the development of new values and forms of mobilization and political participation. The crisis facing the welfare state is jeopardizing social welfare and altering social relations in the world of labor. There are also clear effects of the third industrial revolution, centered on information technology and telecommunications, labor relations and dynamics, and flows of information, people, and capital. Geopolitically speaking, the emergence of developing countries like the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) and of social experiments and theories of a postcolonial bent have not just modified relations between nation-states, but have critically queried the evolutionary and Euro-centric narrative that justified colonialism in the past and is the basis for the economic, political, and cultural hegemony in the present. The increasing interdependence between nation-states has also spawned new supranational political institutions and governance arrangements designed to address risks and challenges of a global scale that far exceed the capacity of single states to resolve individually, such as climate change or mass migration.

Subtheme 2.1. Democracy, nation-states, and global governance

- *This topic stems from the major transformations seen since the twentieth century in the way individuals, institutions, businesses, and states are organized and interrelate, while also having great impacts on the Earth.*

Subtheme 2.2. Inequality and transformations in the world of work, population flows, and social subjectivities

- *Expand on scientific knowledge concerning problems related to inequality and transformations in the world of work, population flows, and social subjectivities, in a bid to comprehend the transformations underway in the world, paying attention to the current power relations in local and global contexts.*