



## **CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA FOR THE PHENOMENON OF GLOBALIZATION**

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### **Rezumat**

Studiul are ca scop identificarea criteriilor posibile pentru clasificarea globalizării, și pe această bază, posibila stabilire a unor clase de fenomene de globalizare. În acest context, autorii sugerează patru criterii de clasificare bazate pe structura cauzalității globalizării: a) criteriul amorsării; b) criteriul expansiunii; c) criteriul consolidării; d) criteriul impactului. Pe baza acestor criterii sunt identificate și analizate în detaliu un număr de 18 fenomene de globalizare.

### **Abstract**

The study aims to identify possible criteria for the classification of globalization and on this basis, the possible establishment of classes of phenomena of globalization. In this context, the authors suggest four criteria for classification based on causality structure of globalization: a) triggering criterion; b) expansion criterion c) strengthening criterion d) impact criterion. Based on these criteria are identified and analyzed in detail a number of 18 phenomena of globalization.

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The classification of the phenomenon of globalization presumes, of course, identifying the criteria of classification. We propose the following point of view on this subject.

We propose that these criteria refer to the very structure of the globalization causality, as follows: a) criterion of priming the phenomenon of globalization – noted with **A**; b) criterion of expansion of the phenomenon of globalization – noted with **E**; c) criterion of consolidation of the phenomenon of globalization – noted with **C**; d) criterion of impact of the phenomenon of globalization – noted **I**. This system consisting of (AECI) refers to the whole phenomenology of globalization.

1. Classification of the phenomenon of globalization according to criterion „A”

By applying criterion „A” we obtain list „A” of the classes of a phenomena of globalization consisting of:

- a. phenomena of globalization of natural origin ( $A_N$ )
- b. phenomena of globalization of social origin ( $A_S$ )

**(a)** The type  $A_N$  phenomena of globalization are those phenomena of globalization which are triggered by the natural process of the planet, without the intermediation or intervention of the subjective factor<sup>1</sup>. In principle, once the man and society appeared, any action of the subjective factor could or can trigger phenomena of globalization which, in the absence of the subjective factor, would not have happened.. Within the context, we consider that, although very difficult, the identification of phenomena from this class is quite relevant, because such phenomena certainly influence the evolution of man and society. We would like to approach here the following additional issues: a1) relation

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<sup>1</sup> We will presume that the only subjective entity – entity which has self-consciousness – is the man (human society).

between emergence, accident and plan within the phenomenology of type  $A_N$  globalization; a2) real existence of the phenomenon of globalization in absence of the subject.

**(a1)** *relation between emergence, accident and plan*

As it is known, emergence is a process of unplanned, non-deliberate appearance (ontological generation). Any phenomenon which verifies the sufficient predicates of the phenomenon of globalization and which occurs before the existence of the subject (human person, human society), is an emergent phenomenon, an emergence. Once the subject appeared, the phenomena of globalization can occur either by accident (non-deliberate action of the subject, or a deliberate action of the subject whose impact of globalization is not anticipated), or by planning (deliberate action of the man whose impact of globalization is anticipated). This shows that a type  $A_N$  phenomenon can only be an emergence, (emergent phenomenon).

**(a2)** *real existence of the phenomenon of globalization in absence of subjectivity*

It is obvious that the existence of the phenomenon of globalization implies its definition, which involves subjectivity. The problem is whether the absence of subjectivity has any conceptual effect on the existence/occurrence of the phenomenon of globalization. In our opinion, the phenomenon of globalization can exist independently of the subjectivity which defines and perceives it as such, once the sufficient predicates of a phenomenon are verified. Therefore, even if there is no subject (knower or observer) of the phenomenon of globalization, subject which to decide the verification or non-verification of the predicates of sufficiency of a phenomenon of globalization, this phenomenon exists as such; it

will be perceived post-factum, i.e. after the subject appears<sup>2</sup> within that real system.

b. Type  $A_S$  phenomena of globalization are those phenomena started by the subjective factor (human individual, human society). As already shown in a previous analysis, type  $A_S$  phenomena can appear either by accident<sup>3</sup>, or by planning. We therefore have two sub-categories of phenomena of globalization:

(b1) Type  $A_S^1$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization started by accident. These are those phenomena of globalization which the subject started by an action which doesn't anticipate the impact of globalization. This sub-category also has two subdivisions:

(b11) phenomena of globalization started by a non-deliberate action of the subject (obviously, in this case the impact of globalization is not anticipated):  $A_S^{11}$

(b12) phenomena of globalization started by a deliberate action of the subject, but whose impact of globalization is not anticipated:  $A_S^{12}$

(b2) Type  $A_S^2$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization started as planned. These are those phenomena of globalization which the subject started by a deliberate action, and which anticipate the impact of globalization (actually, this impact is desirable, expected, intentional).

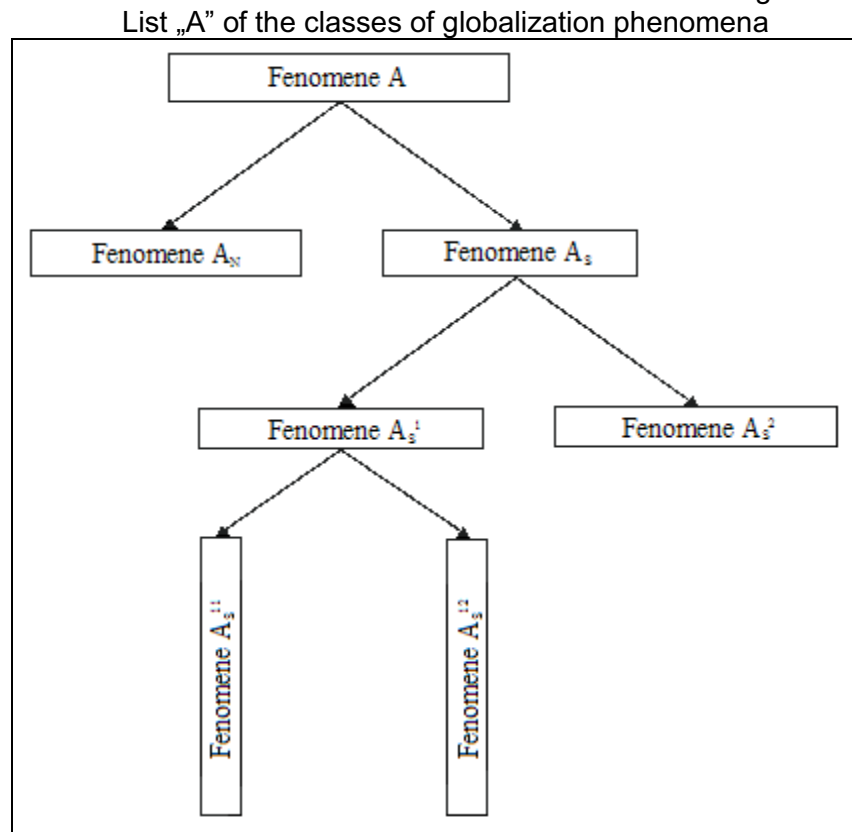
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<sup>2</sup> *Nota bene, the appearance of the subject must be considered as an emergence (except when we accept the religious doctrine in which the subject is created by supra-subjective entity, case in which the appearance of the supra-subjective entity must be considered an emergence).*

<sup>3</sup> *In nature there is no accident, any process is a necessary element within the natural chain (for instance, the disappearance of the dinosaurs supposedly because the earth has been hit by an extraterrestrial body, can not be considered an accident, rather a necessary phenomenon; the accidents, contingencies, are only generated by the subject).*

Therefore, according to this criterion of classification, the phenomena of globalization can be described synoptically as shown in Figure 1.

Figure no.1



2. Classification of the phenomenon of globalization according to criterion „E”

Applying criterion „E” we obtain list „E” of the classes of a phenomena of globalization consisting of:

- a. phenomena of globalization of physical origin ( $E_F$ )
- b. phenomena of globalization of cultural origin ( $E_C$ )

- a. The phenomena of globalization of physical origin are those phenomena of globalization which unfold (expand) on the physical component or matter of the reality. For instance, the current processes of global warming or desertification are phenomena of this type. This class of phenomena of globalization has the following subdivisions:

(a1) Type  $E_F^1$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization which occur on the horizontal. They develop or expand throughout the planet. Some examples are the global warming, a contemporary phenomenon, and a very old phenomenon, when the current composition of the terrestrial atmosphere appeared (increased proportion of oxygen within the chemical structure of the air).

(a2) Type  $E_F^2$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization which occur on the vertical. They develop or expand on local areas of the planet and have the “vocation” of exhausting that particular location. Such an example might be the process of planet desertification (increasing proportion of the desert dry land within the overall dry land of the earth). This phenomenon of globalization will only manifest on those areas of dry land which “meet” the specific requirements of the process of desertification. In fact, the process of desertification represents the expansion of the desert conditions (ultimately, in logic terms, this is the actual phenomenon of globalization, the expansion of the conditions favouring the installation of deserts). Another phenomenon of globalization from this class is the expansion of the part of the atmosphere which is not protected against ultraviolet rays because the ozone layer disappears. This phenomenon will also expand in time until the entire shielding zone is “consumed”; however, it will not exhaust the entire atmosphere, having thus a vertical character, according to the acceptance from this material.

(b): The phenomena of globalization of cultural nature are those phenomena of globalization which unfold (expand) on the cultural

component or matter of the reality. For instance, the current processes of global „internetization” or the expanded use of the English language are phenomena of this type. This class of phenomena of globalization has the following subdivisions:

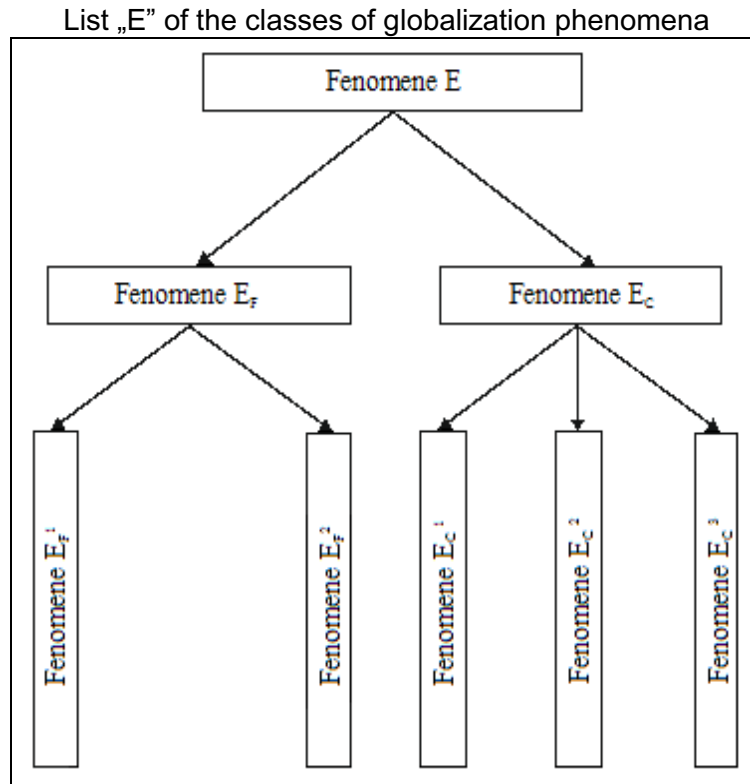
(b1) Type  $E_C^1$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization which refer to the axiological aspect. They expand on a set of values at planetary level. An example would be the expansion of capitalism as manner of economic activity, or the expansion of Christianity, as way of spiritual activity

(b2) Type  $E_C^2$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization which refer to the praxeological aspect. They expand a method, a practice, or an instrument at the planetary level. An example would be the expansion of the Internet (and its contemporary derivatives), or the expanded use of the English language.

(b3) Type  $E_C^3$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization which refer to the intellectual aspect. They expand a manner of knowledge at the planetary level. An example would be the expansion of the scientific knowledge (both on the nature and on the society).

Therefore, according to this criterion of classification, the phenomena of globalization can be described synoptically as shown in Figure 2:

Figure no.2



1. Classification of the phenomenon of globalization according to criterion „C”

Applying criterion „C” we obtain list „C” of the classes of a phenomena of globalization consisting of:

- a. Formal phenomena of globalization:  $C_F$   
 Informal phenomena of globalization:  $C_I$

**(a)** The formal phenomena of globalization are those phenomena of globalization whose “path” is encoded in formal institutions. This encoding ensures a planned consolidation of the phenomena. For instance, the worldwide expansion of the banking



system, or the expansion of the satellite communications (global positioning systems included) are phenomena of globalization belonging to this class.

(a1) Type  $C_F^1$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization whose encoding has a positive significance. They have a desirable<sup>4</sup> character and, therefore, the purpose of the dedicated formal institutions is to promote, accelerate “smooth” the expansion. Included here are the Interpol, or the global positioning systems

(a2) Type  $C_F^2$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization whose encoding has a negative significance. They are undesirable and, therefore, the purpose of the dedicated formal institutions is to deter, decelerate and hinder that expansion<sup>5</sup>. Included here is, for instance, the expansion of the organized crime.

(b) The informal phenomena of globalization are those phenomena of globalization whose “path” is not encoded in formal institutions. For instance, the worldwide expansion of the financial/economic crises (either through mechanisms that can be reasonably described, or by contagion) is a phenomenon of globalization belonging to this class.

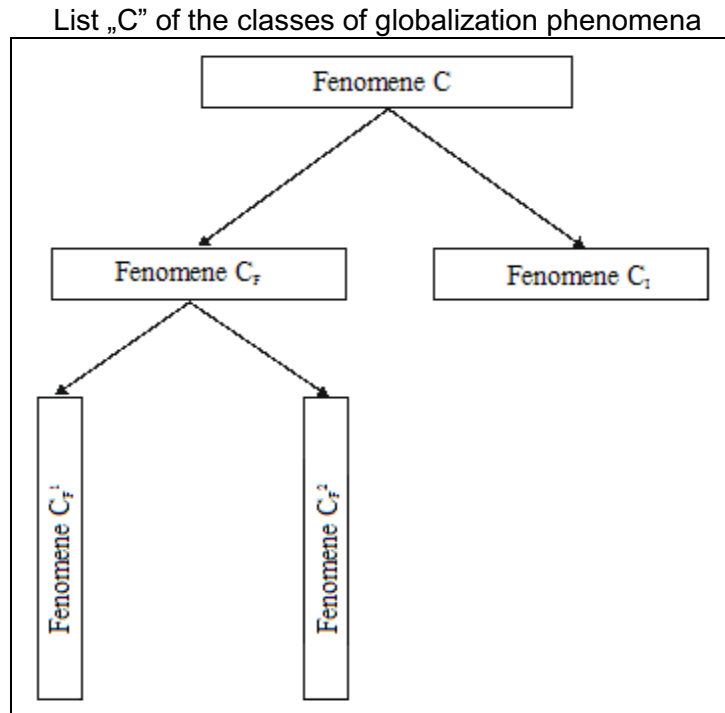
Therefore, according to this criterion of classification, the phenomena of globalization can be described synoptically as shown in Figure 3:

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<sup>4</sup> *Of course, the evaluation of the expansion of a phenomenon of globalization as being desirable is a very complex and arguable task because it involves values. For instance, the periodic meetings of the groups of states aiming at economic and financial globalization (G8, G20), are systematically criticised by part of the population (almost always accompanied by violent public manifestations), although another part of the population supports these meetings.*

<sup>5</sup> *Question is: why aren't institutions encoded, which to reverse the direction of an undesirable process of globalization. The answer was given in the definition of the first predicate of necessity of the concept of phenomenon of globalization: the predicate of irreversibility. Because of the predicate of sufficiency named structurality, a phenomenon of globalization is irreversible. It may be, possibly, managed reasonably (the negative impact can be minimised) but not removed or reversed.*

Figure no. 3



2. Classification of the phenomenon of globalization according to criterion „I”

Applying criterion „I” we obtain list „I” of the classes of a phenomena of globalization consisting of:

- a. phenomena of globalization impacting on the physical reality<sup>6</sup>:  
**I<sub>F</sub>**
- b. phenomena of globalization impacting on the social reality: **I<sub>S</sub>**

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<sup>6</sup> This category of impact is demanded by purely logic necessities, because once the subject appeared on the planet, no phenomenon of globalization, of any origin or substance, can avoid impacting on the social.

(a) The phenomena of globalization impacting on the physical reality are those phenomena of globalization which yield direct and exclusive effects on the non-subjective nature (on the physical reality). As already shown, such phenomena were exclusive before the subject appeared on the planet (for instance, the globalization of the effect produced when an extraterrestrial body hit the earth some 60 millions years ago and the sunlight could no longer penetrate to the soil surface, which triggered the disappearance of the very large animals such as the dinosaurs). After the subject appeared, the population of this class of phenomena of globalization decreased. Under the current conditions, over six billion human beings interconnected in a countless number of networks of all kinds, it is almost certain that this class of phenomena doesn't include even one single individual.

(b) The phenomena of globalization impacting on the social reality are those phenomena of globalization which yield effects on the subject (individual or society).

(b1) Type  $I_S^1$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization with direct impact on the subject (individual or society). They influence, in any way and at any level, the subject, without any intermediary link. This subcategory has three subdivisions:

(b11) phenomena of globalization which lead to worldwide acculturation<sup>7</sup> ( $I_S^{11}$ ). The generalised and fast exchange of values contributes to the adoption of a common fund of basic values which "forgets" its origin and becomes a cultural heritage of the entire mankind.

(b12) phenomena of globalization which lead to worldwide communization of responsibility<sup>8</sup> ( $I_S^{12}$ ).  
Becoming aware and experiencing the fact that any local

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<sup>7</sup> We are ignoring here the important problem of regionalisation (of the phenomena of regionalization) as stage, possibly intermediary, in the shift from local to global. This problem seems irrelevant, within the context of this discussion, because it doesn't seem to have principally different significations than the problem of globalization (eventually, it may have peculiarities of scale or speed).

<sup>8</sup> We are not discussing here the concrete consequences, such as the necessity of world governance or something similar, because we are only interested in the basic, abstract impact.

action has a global effect generates an ethics with global vocation, a consciousness of the common destiny of the present and future human beings

(b13) phenomena of globalization which lead to worldwide praxeological homogenization ( $I_S^{13}$ ).

Technology, economy and governance will resemble by force of things (primarily due to reasons of efficacy)

(b2): Type  $I_S^2$  phenomena of globalization: phenomena of globalization with indirect impact on the subject (individual or society). They influence, in any way and at any level, the subject, via a link between the impact on the physical reality and the impact on the subject. This subcategory has two subdivisions:

(b21) phenomena of globalization which lead to the alteration of man-nature relation ( $I_S^{21}$ ). The fear of non-sustainability of the current relation between man and nature (relying on the predominance of the discretionary human intervention in nature, on the paradigm of the unilateral optimality, exclusively from the perspective of the subject, of the specific relation) will necessarily generate (under the sanction of human extinction) the adoption of the paradigm of sustainability<sup>9</sup> or, even more adequately, of the paradigm of viability<sup>10</sup>. This will mean a radical change of the man-nature relation

(b22) phenomena of globalization which lead to the alteration of the way of life<sup>11</sup> of the human society ( $I_S^{22}$ ). The problems caused by the ratio of the economic resources – economic necessities of the micro or macro space of living will lead to the reconsideration, in terms of sustainability, of some crucial aspects of the current way of life: urbanization, technology of public decision-

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<sup>9</sup> We will approach this paradigm in the subsequent paragraph.

<sup>10</sup> Viability can be defined as the logic sum of sustainability and moral code.

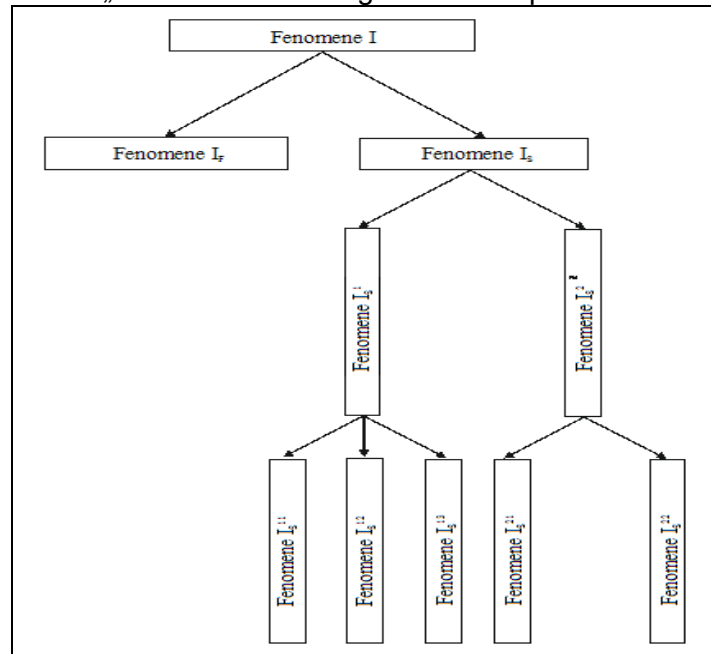
<sup>11</sup> As it is known, the way of life includes the quality of life plus the individual or group particularity of “consuming” the quality of life. The way of life, in turn, includes the standard of living plus the non-economic aspects of “consuming” the standard of living.

making etc. The solution of human colonisation of the proximal cosmic space can also be taken into consideration.

Therefore, according to this criterion of classification, the phenomena of globalization can be described synoptically as shown in Figure 4:

Figure no. 4

List „I” of the classes of globalization phenomena



Based on the above proposed classification we may allocate an alphanumeric code to each phenomenon of globalization, which to place it, non-univocally, on a position described concomitantly by the four criteria of classification:  $A_{x_A}^{y_A} E_{x_E}^{y_E} C_{x_C}^{y_C} I_{x_I}^{y_I}$ . Function of the alphanumeric symbols associated to each criterion, one can infer immediately the origin, material form of development (expansion),

encoding and produced or expected impact of the specific phenomenon of globalization.<sup>12</sup>

### **References**

1. Paul Hirst and Grahame Thompson (1996), *Globalization in question: the international economy and the possibilities of governance* Polity Press.
2. Joseph Stiglitz (2002) *Globalization and its discontents*, Penguin Books.

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<sup>12</sup> *A possible development of this study might produce a general catalogue of the identifiable phenomena of globalization (past, current or probable) in mankind history.*

# Appendix

