



GLOBALIZATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

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Globalization which comes to forefront since 1970's seems a concept which brings the debates in many areas and quite difficult to agree on. The phenomenon of globalization is a process with many different aspects and complex dynamic that cannot be reduced to a single dimension. The concept of globalization is not a stable and stabile entity. Due to being not completed yet, would be more accurate to express this phenomenon as a process. Globalization process which has a dynamic structure increases and spreads its effectiveness with each passing day and it can adapt its current structure according to the changed conditions do with the expansion and transformations. But basically it might be said that globalization process leads liberal economic order to come to the forefront economically and liberal democracy to come to the forefront politically.

Keywords: Globalization, Social policy, Social state, Liberalism.

INTRODUCTION

Social state practice showed a rapid development especially after World War II. Social state entered into direct production and employment in this period. While state became the biggest employer, various government agencies have begun to produce goods and services. A mixed economy emerges with the state's active role in the economic life and the state has attempted to achieve an integration by creating harmony between labor and business. Besides with this, all segments of the society started to request services from state increasingly and this began to cause economic disruption in the welfare state. This also means the welfare state lost its function. A matter of fact, world was faced with a new financial crisis especially after 1970's after the first and second oil shocks. In the mentioned period; public spending, chronic budget deficits, high tax burden and inflation has become a common problem for all countries of the world with constantly growing welfare state applications mainly including all Western European welfare state in increasing global competition.

The interventionist welfare state has been declared as the responsible of all these negative developments in economic life. Intervention of state to free market was started to be criticized intensively and pro-market opinions quickly began to come on the agenda. In this regard, welfare state began to weaken theoretically and practically. It should be noted at this point, the dilemmas experienced in the capitalist system can produce a new solution for itself. In this context, globalization can be expressed as last method which capitalist system apply in order to maintain its presence. Thus, welfare state concept which was developed against the World Economic Crisis in 1930's left its place to globalization slowly when the World enter into a new crisis in 1970's. This situation is being expressed as a consequence caused by the transition from industrial society to information society, from nation capitalism to global capitalism especially with the acceleration of technological development. Within the

globalization process, many processes which are complex conflicting with each other can be realized in the same time slot. In this respect, it is seen that there are many different opinions on how to define the globalization. In the context of the concept of globalization; there are some definitions such as using the specific ideas, concepts and technologies in worldwide, effects of global values on national identity and social structures by gaining universal characteristics or process of getting similarity of World by creating an economic whole. The common feature of the definition of globalizations is the effect of the dominant character of globalization which has economical attributes on other elements. Within this regard, globalization can be expressed as the free circulation of capital, labor, goods, and knowledge in the international market if we start from the most basic dynamics.

EFFECTS OF GLOBALIZATION on SOCIAL POLICY STATE SOCIAL

Today, the concept of globalization is being used commonly in all social areas, economy, and the policy cultural life and beyond these in ecology and technical field. In this regard, approach that examines the globalization in terms of social and economic aspects are being mentioned along with the approaches which loads more meaning to globalizations. The aspect that we are going to discuss here is the effect of globalization on social policy.

The spread and development of the process of globalization has many effects (political, economic, technological etc.) on social state (welfare state) which is a consequence of social policy. Surely; the economical dimension of globalization can be assumed as the basic factors in change and transformation of Social state concept. Along with this, the political and technological dimensions of globalization process led to a number of effects on the social state with its reflections on economic dimensions. Thus, technological innovations plays a key role in ensuring the international mobility of capital. For example; the opportunity to invest in another corner of the world are started to being said with instant operation as results of these innovations. The economic consequences caused by these also led some effects of globalization on social state.

Undoubtedly the most important politic effect of globalization is the reduction of decisiveness of nation states on economy and the shift of globalization process to transnational market forces such as international organizations and multinational companies. Social dimensions of the nation state were affected by the reduction of decisiveness of nation states on economy but not as much as nation state. Consequently, when we approach to the issue in terms of social policy by leaving aside opposite views such as the globalization process will not affect the structure of the nation-state very much¹ or this will bring the end of nation states; it is possible to say that this process will decrease the decisiveness of nation states on economic field favor of the free market. In another words, the autonomy and control of the nation-state over the economy is reduced. Then, the right of nation states to say a word in international policy has declined with the process of globalization; there comes a process in which international policies are being shaped by international trusts and organizations such as IMF, DB, OECD, NAFTA, EU. Within this context, nation states which claim to be a social state could not put into effect the social programs they wish to.

The globalization of economy is the element which constitutes the most important effect on the transformation experienced in social state during globalization process. Especially, this process is characterized by the increase in the International trade between countries, mobility of capital and the developments in the money market. Strengthening the free market system and reducing the state's economic and social activity has become the target of almost all world economies during this process when the liberal policies come to forefront again.

Neo-liberalism which is the dominant economy policy of globalization narrowed the field of social policy that is being followed by nation-state with a concept the social state and caused It has led to retrogressive development in some parts and even given up from some parts. Therefore, increase of social injustice and inequality in worldwide and within their countries has been mentioned along with this process. Hence, shift of decisiveness of nation states on economy to international organizations during

globalization process prevents states from the realization of the social objectives and increase the decisiveness of international organizations on social purpose applications. The tendency of international organizations on this issue is the increasing prosperity by strengthening the social market economy in line with the neo-liberal policies. For example, World Bank discuss about the creation of social institutions for the poor and defines these mentioned social institutions in a special are.

CONCLUSION

Consequently, economic order of globalization process is based on the global competition, basically. In this regard, developing and least developed countries cope with providing a competitive advantage as much as developed countries which are defined as the core country even they are accepted as to be more advantageous in globalization process. The way to this is to present advantageous conditions in the context of reduced costs in order to get the capital to their country. Within this context, precautions such as reducing the labor costs in the global competition, tax benefits in favor of capital and reducing social spending has come to the agenda by all countries. A competition among all countries in the context of reducing costs is being mentioned. Surely; the social policy applications of these countries are being affected negatively by these competitions in terms of pulling down the costs.

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