



Glossary

Addis Ababa Agreement – The Addis Ababa Accords were a series of compromises in 1972, aimed at appeasing the leaders of the insurgency in southern Sudan after the first Sudanese Civil War proved costly to the government in the South. Widespread local autonomy was granted. There followed a decade of relative peace.

Amnesty – is a legal act by which the supreme power in a state grants release from punishment to those who may have been guilty of any offence. In relation to immigration, amnesty is the act of giving legal status to all illegal immigrants currently in the country.

Animism - a type of religious belief that all components of the universe, including humans, animals, plant life, rocks, etc. contain some form of life force, soul or spirit.

Asylum - a status offered by one nation to a citizen of another nation, because the individual fears harm from the nation of origin.

Authoritarian government – uses absolute rule; the term is used to describe a state which enforces strong and sometimes oppressive measures against the population, generally without attempts at gaining the consent of the population.

Bilateralism - is a term referring to trade or political relations between two states.

Calories - Units of measurement that represent the amount of energy the body is able to get from foods. Different nutrients in foods provide different amounts of calories. Calories are the body's fuel.

Carbon dioxide - An atmospheric gas (CO₂) that is naturally present in the air at low levels and is useful for plants in the photosynthesis process. Increased production of carbon dioxide by people through the burning of fossil fuels (i.e.: from power generation) contributes to global warming.

Civil rights - The rights that go with citizenship that one acquires simply by being a citizen. Civil rights are personal rights guaranteed and protected by the government and many times written in a constitution, (i.e. freedom of speech, press, freedom from discrimination).

Coal – is a fossil fuel that is extracted from the ground by mining. Coal is one of the largest sources of energy production around the world and is highly associated with the industrial revolution. Today, coal is mostly used for electricity production worldwide.

Cognition/cognitive - refers to the ability to think, learn and remember; including brain functions related to sense perception or understanding.

Collective security – the theory behind the formation of the UN. The idea that international security can only be attained through collective action to prohibit, restrain, and repulse aggression. In this view, aggression against one member of a community—such as the UN—is aggression against every member of that community, and must be defeated by the collective action of all.

Comparative advantage - the idea that countries gain when they produce those items that they are most efficient at producing; it is a component of free market theory that states that if each nation made just those things which it could produce cheaper relative to a foreign country and then trade with other nations to get that which they could produce relatively cheaper, wealth would expand and everyone would benefit.

Communism - An economic or political system based on classless society and the sharing of all work and property by the whole community. In its ideal form, social classes cease to exist, there are no coercive governmental structures, and everyone lives in abundance without supervision from a ruling class. Communism is the ideological opposition of capitalism.

Communist bloc – this was the bloc of countries that tried to practice communism. During the Cold War, comprised the following Central and Eastern European countries: Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, East Germany, Poland, Albania (until the early 1960s, see below), the Soviet Union, and Czechoslovakia along with China and a number of Asian and Latin American countries.

Confidence building measures (CBMs) – in a conflict, CBMs aim to lessen anxiety and suspicion by making the parties' behavior more predictable. Such agreements are meant to build trust among the conflicting parties and limit escalation. They are usually based on information exchange and transparency tools and depend on good and quick communication.
Countrymen network

Dehydration - a severe condition in which the body contains an inadequate amount of water for normal functioning. This condition can be life threatening.

Displaced - To shift or move from an original location. In international relations displaced is usually used to describe persons who have been forced to leave their homes for a variety of reasons such as war, famine, or severe discrimination.

Drought - a long period with little or no rainfall as a result of abnormal dry weather. Droughts cause serious effects on agriculture and other activities in the affected area.

Economically Developed Countries (EDCs) - this term refers to the more affluent nations of the world, located mainly in North America and Western Europe. These countries have

extremely productive economies and high standards of living compared to the majority of the world

Electoral support – refers to measures taken by peacekeepers to encourage and monitor the development of an electoral democratic system. This support is given to assure all groups in the local society that elections are fair and legal; these measures help locals to accept election results and government decisions without resorting to conflict and violence to settle disagreements.

Energy gap – here this term refers to the imbalance in energy availability and energy consumption between EDCs and LDCs. The former represent a smaller part of the world's population but the largest part of energy consumption while some people in LDCs do not even have electricity and/or basic heat.

Environmental degradation – the reduction of the capacity of the environment to meet social and ecological objectives and needs of the world population. Causes are probably processes induced by human behavior and activities (sometimes combined with natural hazards) that damage the natural-resource base or adversely alter natural processes or ecosystems.

Ethnic cleansing – the mass expulsion and killing of one ethnic or religious group in an area by another ethnic or religious group in that area.

EU 15 – these are the 15 original countries that established the European Union in 1992. The countries are Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Denmark, Ireland, UK, Spain, Greece, Portugal, Austria, Finland, Sweden, and Luxemburg.

EU 10 – refers to the 10 Eastern and Central European countries that joined the European Union in May 2004. These are Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

Famine - a drastic, wide-reaching food shortage; often is occurring in countries of extreme poverty, environmental depravation, political conflict, and internal wars and violence.

Formal economy - the official or public segment of a country's economy, in which goods and services are transferred openly and subject to account, taxation, legal oversight, and government regulation. A country's level of economic development is typically measured by the economic activity that takes place within the formal sector, since this activity is transparent and easily quantifiable.

Fossil fuels – Fuels formed in the ground from the remains of dead plants and animals. It takes millions of years to form fossil fuels. Oil, natural gas, and coal are fossil fuels. When burned, they are a leading cause of greenhouse gases and global warming.

Free trade

Free markets – this is an economic term referring to a market where price of goods and services is determined by the unregulated interchange of supply and demand. This is in contrast to a controlled market where supply, demand, and price are set directly by government. Between the two extreme we can find mix markets with elements of both.

Gas - refers here to natural gas - gaseous fossil fuel consisting primarily of methane. It is used in process of electricity generation

Greenhouse gasses - any gas contributing to the retention of heat in the Earth's atmosphere. These gases trap the heat of the sun in the Earth's atmosphere, producing the greenhouse effect. The primary greenhouse gas is carbon dioxide. It results largely from human consumption of carbon-based fossil fuels.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) - a measure of income within a country, excluding their earnings from commerce with other nations; GDP is widely used as a way to evaluate economic development and compare standards of living between nations.

GDP Per-capita – per capita is a Latin phrase meaning *for each head* or in other words the average per person. GDP per capita is the national per person income level of a country and depends on the country's GDP and the number of people in the country.

Global citizenship – currently refers to awareness of the world as a global community, recognizing the rights and responsibilities of citizens within it.

Globalization – a set of processes leading to the integration of economic, cultural, political, and social systems across countries and regions. Advanced technology, communication, and transportation aid these processes and “shrink” the world as distance and time become less important. Currently, globalization is most advanced in the economic area but some integration of culture, society, and government are also present.

Host country – when discussing immigration, a host country is the country of target for immigrants; i.e. the country they travel into.

Human Security - a people-centered approach focusing on the protection of individuals and social groups from violent threats to their rights, safety or lives. The central focus of the human security agenda is security threats to citizens posed by conflict, involuntary movement of peoples, extremist social movements, disease, transnational crime, and environmental change.

Ice Age – A period during which the Earth is substantially cooler than usual and a significant portion of its land surface is covered by glaciers. Ice ages generally last tens of millions of years, but eventually Earth warms up.

Industrialization - the establishment of an economic and social system characterized by large industries, machine production, and the concentration of workers in urban areas.

Developed countries went through the process 100-200 years ago but there are still some developing countries that did not experience the process yet.

Informal economic sector - the segment of a country's economy in which economic activity is not conducted openly, and is therefore not subject to account, taxation, legal oversight, and government regulation. Typically the exchange of goods and services occurring in the informal sector—which may in some cases be illegal—is said to be “black market” or “gray market” activity, and is difficult to measure and quantify. It also may detract from “official” economic activity and the overall economic health of the country.

Kyoto Protocol - term used in reference to a compromise reached in Kyoto, Japan in December 1997 on greenhouse gas reduction. In Kyoto, 38 industrialized countries reached a binding agreement to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases to below-1990 levels by 2012. Since then 163 countries signed and ratified the agreement; for more information [click here](#).

Less Developed Countries (LDCs) - this term refers to the poorer nations of the world, located mainly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. These countries have much higher poverty rates and much lower standards of living than the U.S. and other Western countries.

Malnutrition - a general term that indicates a lack of some or all-nutritional elements necessary for human health.

Micronutrients – the vitamins and minerals - like zinc, iron, and vitamins B and D – that help structure the body and regulate all reactions and processes within the body. Although the body only needs small doses of these, they are all essential for normal body function.

Multilateralism - direct interactions and negotiations between more than two countries.

Multi-National Corporations (MNCs) - private companies with branches or subsidiaries in more than one country, which usually have their headquarters at one base in the home country of the owners; most MNCs have their headquarters in EDCs and their production in LDCs.

Negative rights – a negative right is a right, either moral or decreed by law, to not be subject to an action of another human being (usually abuse or coercion). Negative rights are sometimes contrasted with positive rights, which are rights to be provided with something by the positive action of another. The former proscribe action, while the latter prescribe action.

Net-migration – the inflows of people into a region or country minus the outflows in a given time period.

Nitrogen Oxide – A gas produced from combustion, that is, the production of either heat or light. Nitrogen oxide can irritate asthmatic conditions and when it is mixed with water, it can produce acid rain, which is harmful to certain ecosystems.

Nomadic Herding – A way of life and a form of economic livelihood. Nomadic herders have no established home or residence, but instead continually move around in search of game and feed.

Oil – A dark liquid that is extracted from porous rock formations. When refined, it can be used to produce fuel oil and petrol (gasoline).

Open society – is a society that allows its members considerable freedom. In such a society, the government and politics are open for criticism and change and do not keep any secrets in the public sphere. An open society values freedom of movement and human rights. Most democracies have open societies.

Peacekeeping – Peacekeeping is a common term for various types of activity carried out: to resolve conflict; to prevent conflict escalation; to halt or prevent military actions; to uphold law and order in a conflict zone; to conduct humanitarian actions; to restore social and political institutions whose functioning has been disrupted by the conflict; and to restore basic conditions for daily living.

People-smugglers – people smuggling is used to describe the illegal and organized smuggling of people across international borders for financial gain. People-smugglers organize facilitate the illegal entries into countries.

Political coup – A coup d'état (pronounced 'kū dā ta'), or simply a 'coup', is the sudden overthrow of a government, usually done by a small group that just replaces the top power figures. It is different from a revolution, which is staged by a larger group and radically changes the political system.

Poor governance – this term refers to countries in which the government does not function well resulting in, and leading to corruption, ineffectiveness, and inefficient way of state management. In such countries the services government is in charge with like citizens' welfare are highly affected.

Positive rights – A positive right is a right, either moral or decreed by law, to be provided with something through the action of another person or group of people (usually a state). Positive rights are sometimes contrasted with negative rights, which are rights to not be subject to the action of another. The former prescribe action, while the latter proscribe action.

Power sharing agreements – in countries where there are two or more large ethnic groups in conflict with each other (civil war or otherwise), power sharing agreements are used to stabilize the country and build a unified government giving voice to all these groups.

Protein – The major structural component of all body tissue; necessary for muscular growth, cellular repair, disease fighting mechanisms, and a number of other crucial body processes. Proteins can be found in many foods including meat, fish, poultry, eggs, beans, nuts, and

dairy products. It is recommended that about one third of a person's daily caloric intake will be of protein.

Protein-energy malnutrition (PEM) – Malnutrition due to inadequate intake of calories or protein or both. This is the most dangerous type of malnutrition and especially harms children.

Radioactive – Refers here to radioactive waste, a potentially harmful byproduct of nuclear power generation.

Renewable Energy Sources (RES) – Capture energy from existing, natural flows of energy such as sunlight or water. RES are abundant in supply. Because RES are naturally replenished faster than they are used up, renewable energy is considered to be infinite in supply.

Sending country – in the immigration debate, a sending country is the country immigrants leave; it is the immigrants' country of origin.

Sovereignty – political independence of a state from any “higher authority” or outside intrusion; in theory, sovereignty gives a state equality and legitimacy in the world system.

Sub-Saharan Africa – a huge region of Africa south of the Sahara desert, encompassing about 2/3rds of the African continent's landmass and the vast majority of its people.

Subsidies - a subsidy is generally a monetary grant given by government to lower the price faced by producers or consumers of a good, generally because they are considered to be in the public interest. Subsidies are given to encourage certain types and forms of industry, and thus giving them an advantage in the marketplace. Providing cheap irrigation water to farms is an example of a subsidy. Subsidies are considered to be a form of trade barriers because they give advantage to local producers over foreign producers.

Subsistence agriculture - Agriculture that is carried out for survival. It is done to feed one's family. Rarely are crop surpluses produced to sell in the local market.

Sulfur dioxide - results from the burning of petroleum and coal. Sulfur dioxide can be irritating to the lungs. It can also react with water to create acid rain.

Sustainable development – this is development that ensures that the use of resources and the environment today for present time growth and development, does not damage prospects for use by future generations.

Sweatshops – small and cramped manufacturing facilities where working conditions are poor and workers are paid very little for their work. While internationally condemned, the use of sweatshops in manufacturing—particularly in the garment and small electronics industries—is widespread, especially in those developing world nations where government

regulation and oversight of labor standards is weak or non-existent. The majority of sweatshop labor typically comes from women and young children. Sweatshops are a major outgrowth of economic globalization; as corporations find it easier to operate on a global scale, many seek to locate manufacturing facilities where production costs are cheapest, and where production is not subject to excessive government regulation.

Trade barriers – these are regulations and limitations government use to restrict imports from, and exports to, other countries in order to protect domestic products and producers from foreign competition or stimulate exports of some domestic products. Some examples include tariffs, subsidies, import quotas, and excessive environmental or health regulations.

United Nations (UN) Charter – this is the key UN document that was signed on 26 June 1945 in San Francisco, California after the United Nations Conference on International Organization. The Charter was officially implemented a few months later on 24 October 1945. It functions as the UN constitution and establishes the guidelines/rules for all UN members to follow. You can access the Charter [here](#).

UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – these are eight goals that all 191 UN (the number as of 2000, currently there are 193 member states) member states have agreed to try to achieve by the year 2015. The United Nations Millennium Declaration was signed in September 2000; for information about the specific goals [click here](#).

United Nations Security Council (UNSC) - the main peacekeeping organ of the United Nations, which has 15 members including 5 permanent members who possess veto power. The other ten non-permanent members are elected to two-year terms and do not possess veto power. Click [here](#) to link to the UNSC website.

Unilateralism - the doctrine that nations should conduct their foreign affairs individualistically without the advice or involvement of other nations.

Uranium - a chemical element. It silvery-white and a weakly radioactive material. Uranium is used mainly to fuel nuclear power plants, although it has other uses as well.