

usage, which he credits to U.S. "business management schools" at Harvard, Columbia and Stanford. This usage of the term focuses on the 'global' and all encompassing nature of these economic, political and ideological processes, giving rise to the ancillary ideas of the borderless and stateless world, and bringing with it the characteristic of inevitable homogenization.¹³ For Chesnais, however, this use of the word 'globalization' occults or conceals the dialectical processes which are inherent to it; in particular, globalization inherently carries with it a 'double movement' or dialectic which runs contrary to the integration, convergence and homogenization it seems to imply. Put most succinctly, while globalization does contribute in some respects to the homogenization of the world -- through communications, technology, trade, investment, and the construction of political choices -- it also simultaneously heralds the end of the tendency of the modern era toward integration and convergence, and does so through the incorporation into globalization of an increased polarization of society, both globally and locally.¹⁴

Despite the global pretensions of globalization, no one can convincingly argue that these processes have been uniformly beneficial to marginalized regions of the world economy. The technological specialization which has facilitated global processes has resulted in a 'blurring' of distinctions between national economies, although perhaps not as much as the ideologues of globalization would like to pretend. As Robert Cox has pointed out, in an era of globalization, the concept of the 'third world' no longer has any clear meaning, "since many of the countries once considered as belonging to it have either found some niche as producers of manufactures, or natural resources (especially energy), or else have been relegated to a 'fourth world' sunken irretrievably in poverty."¹⁵ Chesnais points to the exclusionary impact of globalization, which has not favoured the development prospects of 'developing' countries, save for either those newly industrialized countries (NICs) which had reached a sufficient stage