

# GEOGRAPHY ONLINE READINGS FOR GLOBAL SHIFT 7<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

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## PART TWO: PROCESSES OF GLOBAL SHIFT

### 3. Tangled Webs: Unravelling Complexity in the Global Economy

- Connections, connections
- Institutional macro-structures of the global economy
- GPNs
- Even in a globalizing world, economic activities are geographically localized
- Networks of networks

Coe, Neil M. (2012) Geographies of production II: A global production networks A-Z. *Progress in Human Geography*, 36 (3): 389–402.

*This progress report provides a concise and definite entry on the A to Z of key geographical studies of global production networks.*

Mahutga, Matthew C. (2014) Global models of networked organization, the positional power of nations and economic development. *Review of International Political Economy*, 21 (1): 157–94.

*This paper explains how the global economy can be understood from the perspectives of global value chains and global production networks. Its historical analysis shows changing positionalities of national economies in a globalizing world.*

Parrilli, Mario Davide, Nadvi, Khalid and Yeung, Henry Wai-chung (2013) Local and regional development in global value chains, production networks and innovation networks: a comparative review and the challenges for future research. *European Planning Studies*, 21 (7): 967–88.

*This paper provides a state-of-the-art review of the expanding literature on global value chains, global production networks and global innovation networks. It integrates these strands of the literature for understanding local and regional development.*

Ponte, Stefano and Sturgeon, Tim (2014) Explaining governance in global value chains: a modular theory-building effort. *Review of International Political Economy*, 21 (1): 195–223.

*This theory paper argues for a new way of theorizing governance in global value chains. It explains how such theory-building effort can be more fruitfully realized through treating existing frameworks as different analytical modules.*

## 4. Technological Change: ‘Gales of Creative Destruction’

- Technology and economic transformation
- Processes of technological change: an evolutionary perspective
- Time–space shrinking technologies
- Technological innovations in products, production systems and organizational forms
- Geographies of innovation

Graham, Mark, Zook, Matthew and Boulton, Andrew (2013) Augmented reality in urban places: contested content and the duplicity of code. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 38 (3): 464–79.

*This paper showcases how technologies, as mediated through geographically referenced information and its regulatory code, are shaping our geographical experience in different parts of the city.*

Morrison, Andrea, Rabellotti, Roberta and Zirulia, Lorenzo (2013) When do global pipelines enhance the diffusion of knowledge in clusters? *Economic Geography*, 89 (1): 77–104.

*This paper explains how external actors can contribute to knowledge diffusion and technological innovations in existing clusters. The authors argue that cluster size and quality of local buzz matter in the role of these external actors.*

Nathan, Max and Lee, Neil (2013) Cultural diversity, innovation, and entrepreneurship: firm-level evidence from London. *Economic Geography*, 89 (4): 367–94.

*This comprehensive study shows the positive relationship between cultural diversity and innovativeness among a large sample of firms based in London, arguably the most globalized city in the world.*

Wang, Cassandra C. and Lin, George C. S. (2013) Dynamics of innovation in a globalizing China: regional environment, inter-firm relations and firm attributes. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 13 (3): 397–418.

*This study of information and communications technology (ICT) firms in China shows the importance of firm-specific characteristics, such as the types of innovation and corporate strategies, in shaping the dynamics of technological innovation. It complements existing geographical studies of the role of regional assets and inter-firm relations in shaping technological innovation.*

## 5. Transnational Corporations: The Primary ‘Movers and Shapers’ of the Global Economy

- The myth of the global corporation
- Why firms transnationalize
- How firms transnationalize
- TNCs as ‘networks within networks’
- Configuring the TNCs’ internal networks
- TNCs within networks of externalized relationships
- Perpetual change: reshaping TNCs’ internal and external networks

Beugelsdijk, Sjoerd and Mudambi, Ram (2013) MNEs as border-crossing multi-location enterprises: the role of discontinuities in geographic space. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 44: 413–26.

*Written by management scholars, this paper argues for a more fine-grained analysis of the role of geography in shaping transnational corporations. The authors explain that such a geographic role can be subdivided into discrete international border effects and continuous distance effects known as subnational spatial heterogeneity.*

Edgington, David W. and Hayter, Roger (2013) ‘Glocalization’ and regional headquarters: Japanese electronics firms in the ASEAN region. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 103 (3): 647–68.

*This empirical study of Japanese TNCs in South East Asia shows the critical importance of regional headquarters in the challenge of balancing the need to adapt foreign subsidiaries to local circumstances and to integrate corporate operations as a whole.*

MacKinnon, Danny (2012) Beyond strategic coupling: reassessing the firm-region nexus in global production networks. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 12 (1): 227–45.

*This theoretical paper examines the role of transnational corporations and their foreign direct investment in shaping the strategic coupling of different regions into global production networks. This role can be understood in relation to intra-TNC contests for repeat investment and differential power asymmetries between TNCs and regional institutions.*

Mariotti, Sergio, Piscitello, Lucia and Elia, Stefano (2014) Local externalities and ownership choices in foreign acquisitions by multinational enterprises. *Economic Geography*, 90 (2): 187–211.

*This empirical study of foreign acquisitions of local manufacturing firms in Italy between 2001 and 2010 shows that the entry mode by TNCs varies by the location of the target firm. The need for a local partner or joint venture is reduced if the target firm is located in core cities or industrial districts that provide good access to positive externalities.*

## 6. The State Really Does Matter

- ‘The state is dead’ – oh no it isn’t!
- States as containers
- States as regulators
- States as collaborators

Haberly, Daniel (2014) White Knights from the Gulf: sovereign wealth fund investment and the evolution of German industrial finance. *Economic Geography*, 90 (3): 293–320.

*This paper shows the important of national institutional structures in shaping corporate restructuring in Germany. The author explains the role of the state in cross-border equity investment through sovereign wealth funds and in the evolution of corporate governance.*

Lee, Yong-Sook, Heo, Inhye and Kim, Hyungjoo (2014) The role of the state as an inter-scalar mediator in globalizing liquid crystal display industry development in South Korea. *Review of International Political Economy*, 21 (1): 109–29.

*This paper examines the role of the South Korean state in facilitating the challenging interactions between domestic firms and global lead firms in a liquid crystal display industrial cluster. The state serves as a container of laws and practices and as a constructor of regional innovation systems.*

McGuirk, Pauline and O'Neill, Phil (2012) Critical geographies with the state: the problem of social vulnerability and the politics of engaged research. *Antipode*, 44 (4): 1374–94.

*Through policy-oriented research in Australia's Hunter Valley, this paper charts the role of state agencies in governing social vulnerability and the politics of collaborative research in shaping state practices.*

Smith, Adrian (2014) The state, institutional frameworks and the dynamics of capital in global production networks. *Progress in Human Geography*, 38, doi: 10.1177/0309132513518292.

*This paper explains the critical role of the state in mediating the integration of regional economies into global production networks. The author illustrates these institutional dynamics through a case study of the uneven integration of North Africa into the European Union.*

Zhang, Jun and Peck, Jamie A. (2014) Variegated capitalism, Chinese style: regional models, multi-scalar constructions. *Regional Studies*, 48, doi:10.1080/00343404.2013.856514.

*This paper shows how the Chinese state at the national and the regional scales has constructed a distinctively Chinese-styled variety of capitalism. The substantial degree of internal (regional) heterogeneity also points to several regional models of capitalist development in China.*