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GLOBALIZATION AND DEMOCRACY

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Abstract

The gathering momentum of globalization in the world economy has coincided with the spread of political democracy across countries. Economies have become global. But politics remains national. This essay explores the relationship between globalization and democracy, which is neither linear nor characterized by structural rigidities. It seeks to analyze how globalization might constrain degrees of freedom for nation states and space for democratic politics, and how political democracy within countries might exercise some checks and balances on markets and globalization. The essential argument is that the relationship between globalization and democracy is dialectical and does not conform to ideological caricatures.

Keywords: globalization; market economy; political democracy; nation state; policy space; macroeconomic policies; open economies; trilemma; dialectical; social media.

JEL Classification: O10; O19; O23; F4; F02; H10; P16.