Guseletov B.,
Dr. of Political Sciences, Chief Researcher, The Institute of Europe, RAS

Social justice and global governance: reconciling equality and politics

The intersection of the spheres of social justice and global governance is crucial for solving modern problems in the field of international cooperation. These dynamic relationships highlight the importance of equality, accountability, and human rights, striving to ensure that all people can enjoy fundamental freedoms and opportunities in an increasingly interconnected world. The principles of social justice have influenced global governance structures over time. Understanding this evolution reveals the importance of developing cooperation between countries and institutions to promote a more just and equitable international order.

Social justice and global governance

Social justice implies a fair distribution of resources, opportunities and privileges in society, guaranteeing fair treatment and access for all people, regardless of their origin. She emphasizes the need for systemic changes to eliminate inequalities caused by socio-economic, racial and cultural factors.

Global governance involves the collective efforts of international organizations, States, and civil society to effectively address global issues. It includes mechanisms, policies, and practices aimed at promoting cooperation and collaboration in addressing issues such as climate change, human rights, and social inequality.

In the context of social justice and global governance, these two concepts are interrelated. Social justice defends the rights and dignity of marginalized groups, while global governance seeks mechanisms that support these ideals on a global scale. Together, they solve pressing problems of inequality and contribute to sustainable development in different countries.

The historical context of social justice and global governance

The evolution of the principles of social justice has become an integral part of the development of global governance. Social justice, which originated on the basis of the ideals of equality and human rights of the Enlightenment, began to form institutional structures after the Second World War. This period was marked by the desire to eliminate inequality through international mechanisms.

The key milestones in global governance were the creation of the United Nations in 1945, which aimed to promote international cooperation and protect human rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948, further strengthened the link between social justice and global governance, emphasizing the dignity and rights inherent in all human beings. As countries realized the need for collective action, treaties and conventions appeared aimed at addressing pressing social issues such as poverty, inequality, and discrimination.

The evolution of social justice principles

The evolution of the principles of social justice reflects the path of transformation aimed at achieving equality, justice and human dignity. In the modern context, it must take into account the complexities associated with globalization, climate change and technological progress. These factors both challenge and support the pursuit of social justice and global governance, emphasizing the need for adaptive strategies.

Key milestones in global governance

Key stages in the development of global governance play an important role in shaping international cooperation and addressing social justice issues. The creation of the United Nations was a fundamental moment that emphasized the importance of peace, security and the protection of human rights. Through various specialized agencies, the UN creates platforms for dialogue and decision-making between countries.

At the end of the 20th century, the concept of sustainable development became an important milestone in history. The Brundtland Report of 1987 and the Earth Summit of 1992 shifted the focus to integrating economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection. This approach highlights the relationship between social justice and global governance.

The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015 confirms the commitment to building a fair and equitable global society. These goals represent a comprehensive program aimed at eradicating poverty, minimizing inequality, and promoting sustainable development, which is key to future global social justice governance efforts.

The relationship between international law and social justice

International law serves as the basis for promoting social justice on a global scale. It establishes principles and norms governing the conduct of States and international organizations, ensuring accountability and the protection of human rights. By integrating social justice into legal codes, international law eliminates inequality and empowers marginalized communities.

International law promotes cooperation between countries in addressing issues of social justice. The relationship between social justice and international law shows how important global governance is to ensure equitable outcomes. When countries work together, the principles enshrined in international law can become necessary tools for achieving social justice, thereby creating a more just world for all.

Challenges of social justice in global governance

The problems of social justice in global governance are multifaceted and complex. One of the main problems is the disparity in the balance of power between countries, which often leads to unequal representation in international forums. This imbalance hinders the effective integration of the principles of social justice into global politics.

Another problem is the persistence of systemic inequalities, including economic, racial, and gender inequalities, which are deeply ingrained in society and often manifest themselves in global governance structures, perpetuating injustice rather than eliminating it.

Moreover, the lack of a unified legal framework for addressing social justice issues creates significant obstacles. National interests often overshadow collective efforts, making it difficult to unite around common goals. As a result, initiatives aimed at promoting social justice are often sporadic and ineffective.

Globalization creates additional problems, exacerbating inequality. As markets become more interconnected, the wealth gap widens, hampering efforts to achieve social justice. Thus, solving these problems is necessary for the effective promotion of social justice and global governance.

The role of international organizations

International organizations play a key role in ensuring social justice and global governance, providing a framework for cooperation between countries. These organizations promote dialogue by enabling countries to jointly address pressing social issues that transcend borders.

Organizations such as the United Nations and the World Bank serve as critical platforms on which Member States can negotiate and implement policies aimed at advancing social justice. Through their initiatives, these organizations directly influence national legislation and raise awareness of social issues around the world.

The effectiveness of international organizations depends on their ability to adapt to changing conditions. They play a crucial role in addressing systemic inequalities, contributing to broader efforts to achieve social justice and global governance.

Regional approaches to social justice and global governance

Regional approaches to social justice and global governance have become vital tools for addressing specific regional issues in accordance with global principles. These strategies reflect the different cultural, political and economic contexts of different regions, which allows for the development of individual initiatives aimed at strengthening social justice.

For 17 years, BRICS has been a platform for the five BRICS countries to strengthen their cooperation, contributing to the rise of the Global South. The New Development Bank and the Conditional Reserves Mechanism are examples of fruitful and pragmatic cooperation between the countries of the bloc.

The European Union has developed a comprehensive policy that focuses on human rights, equality and social inclusion. Through initiatives such as the European Pillar of Social Rights, the EU strives to ensure fair working conditions, access to social protection, and gender equality.

The African Union, in its "African Union Agenda 2063", focuses on a collective approach to social justice. This program promotes equitable development and social cohesion while eliminating historical injustices. It aims to empower African countries to improve governance structures that promote accountability and equity.

These regional programmes are an example of the intersection of local needs and global governance imperatives, demonstrating that social justice can be achieved through collaborative and context-sensitive approaches tailored to the specific challenges faced by different regions.

The BRICS position

The world has entered a new period of instability and transformation, and the international order is undergoing major changes, division, and regrouping. The conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza have not only disrupted global supply chains, but have also created enormous risks to peace and development at both the regional and global levels.

The newly expanded BRICS can coordinate efforts to promote shared growth, protect multilateralism, and contribute more to the realization of more equitable global governance. Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Iran and Ethiopia joined Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa to open a new chapter in the group. The five new members, as representatives of the Middle East and Africa, will help expand the global reach and influence of the bloc, giving it greater weight as a stabilizer of the global economy.

The doubling in the number of its members indicates the high global appeal of the group, as it turns 18 this year, as well as the cohesion of developing countries, despite their different sizes, stages of development and political systems. In addition to the five new members, dozens of countries have joined the BRICS, including Kuwait, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Bolivia.

Painting an even darker picture, some Western countries, rooted in a Cold War mentality, are sparing no effort to sow the seeds of division and confrontation in order to maintain Western hegemony. Against this background, the BRICS cooperation mechanism is seen as a means of meeting the common aspirations of developing countries for a more equitable share of the global pie and strengthening the global trend towards multipolarity.

China and Russia, being the founders of BRICS, are confident in developing a mechanism for cooperation. They are ready to deepen cooperation in all areas in the spirit of openness, inclusivity and mutually beneficial cooperation in order to build a bright future for the peoples of the BRICS countries and the whole world together.

European Union strategies

The European Union uses various strategies to promote social justice within its governance system. These strategies aim to ensure equality and inclusivity in order to narrow the gap between Member States and create a more equitable society.

The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights requires respect for human dignity, freedom and equality, thereby reinforcing the EU's commitment to the principles of social justice. This charter influences legislation and policy-making by guiding initiatives aimed at improving social conditions in Europe.

In addition, the EU implements programs such as the European Social Fund, which supports projects aimed at increasing employment opportunities and reducing poverty. These efforts play a key role in eliminating socio-economic inequalities and strengthening the principles of social justice and global governance.

African Union Framework Program

The African Union's (AU) commitment to the principles of social justice is anchored in various policy frameworks and instruments aimed at promoting good governance, human rights and sustainable development across the continent. The AU recognizes that achieving social justice is an integral part of ensuring peace, stability and unity among its Member States.

An important component of the structure of the AU is the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which emphasizes the importance of social justice for the protection of fundamental rights. This charter calls for the equitable allocation of resources and the eradication

of poverty and discrimination, thereby strengthening the link between social justice and global governance.

Another key initiative is the 2063 Agenda, which aims to create an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa. This comprehensive program aims to eliminate systemic inequalities and empower marginalized communities. Its implementation reflects the desire of the African Union to introduce social justice into the governance structures in the participating countries. By fostering cooperation and accountability, the AU strives to create a more just society in which the rights of all people are given priority.

The impact of globalization on social justice

Globalization has a profound impact on social justice, changing economic landscapes and cultural interactions between countries. As countries become more interconnected, differences in wealth and access to resources often increase, exacerbating inequality. Economic interdependence can lead to the exploitation of the workforce in developing countries, undermining efforts to ensure fair wages and working conditions.

Cultural exchanges resulting from globalization can contribute to social justice by strengthening mutual understanding and cooperation between different communities. However, such an exchange can lead to the marginalization of local cultures and traditions, which will eventually lead to the homogenization of the world and disregard for the views of minorities. Global governance must take into account these cultural dynamics in order to promote the creation of equitable social justice systems.

Economic interdependence and inequality

Economic interdependence implies the interconnection of national economies through trade, investment, and the exchange of goods and services. This phenomenon has a significant impact on social justice, affecting the distribution of wealth and access to resources, which, in turn, can exacerbate existing inequalities.

Globalization has increased economic interdependence, leading to income inequality both within and between countries. The key factors include:

  • Concentration of capital in developed countries.
  • Labor exploitation in developing countries.
  • Unequal access to technology and education.

As economies become more interconnected, wealth tends to be concentrated in rich countries, creating a global gap between rich and poor. Such inequality contradicts the principles of social justice, which advocate fair treatment and an even distribution of resources.

To eliminate this inequality, it is necessary to integrate the principles of social justice into global governance systems. Effective policies should aim to ensure equal economic opportunities, promote inclusive growth, and prevent vulnerable populations from being left out in an increasingly interdependent world.

Cultural exchange and social justice

Cultural exchange can have a significant impact on social justice within global governance structures, fostering mutual respect and understanding. When cultures interact with each other, they contribute to raising awareness of social injustices that may go unnoticed. For example, global attention to topics such as racial equality and gender rights is largely driven by intercultural dialogue, which often takes place through social media and international forums.

In addition, cultural exchange contributes to the development of inclusive policies. By taking into account different points of view, global governance systems can better address issues of social justice, leading to a balanced representation and allocation of resources.

Ultimately, cultural exchange plays a fundamental role in shaping perceptions of social justice. By eliminating differences and fostering empathy, such interaction can lead to transformations that align with the principles of social justice and global governance, contributing to building a more just world.

The role of technology and social media

Technology and social media have changed the discourse related to social justice and global governance. They facilitate the rapid dissemination of information, allowing mass movements to mobilize and make themselves known internationally. The interconnectedness of social media platforms allows marginalized groups to challenge systemic injustices around the world.

In addition, technology plays an important role in bridging the gap between policy and practice. Digital tools are used to monitor human rights violations and hold Governments accountable. This technological shift is encouraging international organizations to integrate social justice concepts into their governance models, ensuring a more inclusive approach.

Despite the positive results, challenges such as misinformation and digital inequality persist, which highlight the need for sustainable practices in using technology for social justice initiatives. Thus, the synergy between technology, social media, and global governance is crucial for advancing social justice ideas in the world.

Future prospects in the field of social justice and global governance

The intersection of social justice and global governance is likely to expand significantly in the future. It is increasingly recognized that addressing social injustice requires a collaborative global structure capable of upholding human rights and promoting equality. This imperative underscores the need to create adaptable legal mechanisms that transcend national borders.

The proliferation of digital platforms contributes to greater mobilization of movements advocating for equality, but at the same time creates potential problems related to data privacy and misinformation.

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