



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBALIZATION PROCESS

Küreselleşme Sürecinde Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma

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ABSTRACT

Our World has undergone great transformations together with the adoption of the mass-production model brought by the Industrial Revolution, the rapid growth of the population, and the acceleration of the globalization process; and these transformations have brought along an increase and diversification in demand for goods and services. Especially the acceleration of the globalization process together with the technological and logistic developments experienced after the 1980s have left the countries that desire to adapt to this new situation, to be in the balance of power in the World, and to catch the era with the necessity of developing by increasing the production to be economically strong. The excessive growth of production increase, on the other hand, disrupts the efficient use and distribution of the world's scarce resources. It also paves the way for the extinction of various living species, the loss of water resources and soil wealth, natural disasters, and global warming by destroying the ecological system. These realized and possible effects have attracted the attention of the Western societies especially in recent years and the reactions against "the production carried out at the expense of disrupting the ecological balance" have increased day by day. As a result of the studies conducted with this awakening, nearly all World societies have united under the umbrella of the United Nations and set sustainable development as a common goal without consuming resources in a way not to take away the chance of meeting the needs of future generations. Thus, "Sustainable Development Goals" consisting of 17 main articles that came into force in 2016 and are aimed to be fulfilled until 2030, have been adopted as a universal action plan by 193 member countries of the United Nations. This study aims to examine the concept of "sustainable development" within the framework of globalization.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, Globalization, Ecological Balance

ÖZET

Dünyamızı; Sanayi Devrimi'nin getirdiği kitlesel üretim modelinin benimsenmesi, hızlı nüfus artışı ve küreselleşme sürecinin hızlanması ile beraber büyük dönüşümler yaşamış ve bu dönüşümler mal ve hizmet taleplerindeki artış ve çeşitlenmeyi de beraberinde getirmiştir. Özellikle 1980'lerden sonra yaşanan teknolojik ve lojistik gelişmelerle birlikte küreselleşme sürecinin hızlanması; bu yeni duruma adapte olmak, dünya güç dengelerinin içinde bulunmak ve çağı yakalamak isteyen ülkeleri ekonomik yönden güçlü olmak için üretim artışını sağlayarak kalkınmak zorunluluğuyla başa bırakmıştır. Aşırı şekilde artan üretim artışı ise dünyanın kıt kaynaklarının etkin kullanımını ve dağılımını bozmakta aynı zamanda ekolojik sistemi tahrip ederek çeşitli canlı türlerinin yok oluşuna, su kaynaklarının ve toprak zenginliğinin kaybolmasına, doğal afetlere ve küresel ısınmaya zemin hazırlamaktadır. Bu olmuş ve olası etkiler son yıllarda özellikle Batılı toplumların ilgisini çekmiş ve 'ekolojik dengenin bozulması' pahasına gerçekleştirilen üretim'e karşı tepkiler günden güne artmıştır. Bu bilinçlenme ile yapılan çalışmalar sonucunda; Birleşmiş Milletler çatısı altında hemen hemen tüm dünya toplumları, gelecek nesillerin ihtiyaçlarını karşılayabilme şanslarını ellerinden almayacak şekilde kaynakları tüketmeden, sürdürülebilir kalkınmayı ortak hedef olarak belirlemiştir. Bu doğrultuda; 2016 yılında yürürlüğe giren 17 ana maddeden oluşan, 2030 yılına kadar ulaşılması hedeflenen "Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma İçin Küresel Amaçlar" Birleşmiş Milletler'e üye 193 ülke tarafından evrensel eylem planı olarak benimsenmiştir. Bu çalışmada; 'sürdürülebilir kalkınma' kavramı küreselleşme çerçevesinde ele alınarak incelenmeye çalışılacaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma, Küreselleşme, Ekolojik Denge

1. INTRODUCTION

Globalization has been both a frequently used term in every aspect of our lives since the 1980s and also the most controversial topic. Together with the opportunities it provides, its adverse effects are often criticized. Thus, there have always been opponents of globalization as much as its supporters.

Globalization creates economic, social, political, etc. togetherness by removing the borders among the countries. The countries are affected by each other's technology and innovation together with globalization, and these interactions demonstrate themselves in the realm of production, too. The higher growth of consumption besides the increase in production has brought along several problems. Our current natural resources have begun to be damaged and tended to disappear and this has naturally started to pose a threat for future generations.

In the presence of this radical change of the world, countries are struggling to render the sustainability of their development as well as ensuring it, and in line with this purpose, they perform various joint studies aimed at sustainable development.

2. GLOBALIZATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Aiming to fulfill sustainable growth, globalization has formed unions of force among the countries, especially in political and economic areas. It has taken trade from the local level to an international dimension. This has improved and enhanced the trade in the international platform. Unfortunately, the success that the global policies have reached in the aforementioned areas could not ensure fairness in the distribution of income among the countries and people. While the welfare level increases in specific parts of the world, some other areas experience just the opposite.

The biggest effect of globalization has occurred as the increasing consumption and, accordingly, the negative situation it creates for our resources and the environment. Where we stand in the process of globalization that dictates endless growth, the common agenda of the countries is growing by reserving the future generations' rights to make use of the world resources. The countries are virtually obliged to unite and create common policies and projects in the direction of this goal.

2.1. A General Outlook on the Concept of Globalization

Globalization is one of the most discussed concepts in scientific and economic circles. It is observed that globalization is tried to be explained by grounding on its negative and positive sides when the causes and effects are analyzed by the scientific circles. The economic circles dwell on the effects that this concept has created and their outcomes. Consequently, the concept of globalization lacks a specific definition, and its effects may also vary.

We have started to hear about the term globalization by the end of the twentieth century. The word "globe" stands for a round object, world, and earth (Şahin, 2011: 1).

According to the definition made by the State Planning Organization, globalization is the spread of our political, social, and cultural values beyond our borders to the world (DPT, 2000: 3).

In the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals Report (United Nations Millennium Development Goals, 2000); globalization is defined as follows: "the strengthening of actors such as multi-national companies, the rapid changes in communication and informatics, and the liberalization initiatives in organization for economic cooperation and development (OECD) countries." (United Nations, 2000: 3).

According to another definition, globalization is the free movement of domestic production and capital in the international markets without being hampered by limitations (Seyrek, 2002: 168).

Together with globalization, it is ensured that the national economies have integrated with the world economy by the investments and trades. The existing rules of goods and production have undergone changes to a large extent. Today, the essential principle is reinforcing the private sector instead of the state. This is not only an economic integration movement but a change and transformation all around the world. For many countries, this situation is a risk-containing and irreversible dependence relationship (Linz, 'Linz'den aktaran Kılıç', 1999: 36). The effects of the experienced globalization process have appeared in different forms all around the world. Thanks to the improving technology, the people can easily reach the information and the cultures get closer to each other by this way. Besides, globalization has led to the formation of various organizations and associations (WB, IMF, etc.) (Hammond & Grosse, 2003: 288).

To sum up, globalization can be stated as a digital and telecommunication-weighted process of transformation through which the geographical borders among the countries disappear, the societies get closer to each other in many aspects such as economic, political, cultural, etc., the liberal policies become effective in many areas, and knowledge and technology gain great importance.

2.2. History of Globalization

Although it seems that globalization has newly been started to be used as a concept, its existence goes back along way. Depending on the relationship bonds among the people and countries, it has followed an increasing-decreasing course in the historical process.

Despite the fact that it is impossible to give certain information on when globalization had begun, it will not be wrong to say that it has started with the Industrial Revolution. We can examine the phases of

globalization, whose foundations were laid with the Industrial Revolution to our assumptions, in three historical periods. These are the periods from the end of the 19th century until 1914, the term between 1914 and 1950, and the era after 1950.

In the period from the end of the 19th century to 1914, globalization was economically at a high level. The tariffs and impediments in the way of global trade are scarcely any. In the period between 1914 and 1950, a closed economy had prevailed. Despite the improvements in transportation, communication, and technical issues, the perception of nationalism after World War I limited the international economic relationships and delivered negative effects for the process of globalization. World War I, the Great Depression of 1929, and World War II had disrupted the dynamics of globalization. The countries had turned towards protectionist economic policies in this period.

In the period after 1950, globalization has shown incredible growth, especially after the 1980s. There are various reasons for this situation. From an economical perspective, the reasons are the international trade volume rising to an unprecedented level and the transformation undergone in the production processes (Bayar, 2008: 26-27).

2.3. Approaches to Globalization

There are various views regarding the globalization process. The reasons for these different views are that each segment of society is affected by this process in different ways. We can classify these views as globalization supporters, globalization opponents, and moderates (Evolutionary / Transformational Approach).

When we approach globalization as a process, we can see it relates to many areas. However, according to the prevailing view of today, the conceptualization of globalization seems to depend on the idea of a market economy-oriented open market. Especially the issues that are closely related to our daily lives such as the intensification of economic relationship networks, the countries being more interdependent from each other, free trade, and foreign investments are considered as a new demonstration of the liberal idea of the concept of globalization. When we look at our history, although it is considered that the intensification of the relationships in the economic realm with the industrial revolution is a reason for the fulfillment of the globalization process, it should be accepted today that this situation is one of the sub-processes of globalization (Ateş, 2006: 26-27).

According to the supporters of this approach, globalization signifies a situation in which nation-states lose their traits and have no effect on the economy. Globalization will harm local economies with its impact on international trade, production, and economy. The states only provide communication among global and powerful organizations. With this discourse, most of the extreme globalization supporters state that economic globalization creates social organizations in new forms, by which they will replace local governments. (Held & McGrew, 2008: 14-15).

The globalization opponents have contrary ideas to the extreme globalizers. This group is also called the skeptics due to their suspicious attitude towards every subject. This group states that the concept of globalization is not something new. Considering the history of globalization, skeptics state that money and goods movements had already occurred to a significant extent during those days. Although many countries have strictly enforced border controls today, people say that they did not even passports in the 19th century. This group says that the developments in the removal of borders and walls between countries around the world are nothing different than the situation one hundred years ago. Briefly, they defend that globalization is not something new and that similar processes existed in the past (Bozkurt, 2000: 20).

Globalization also causes inequality among the people living in the country, while some people get richer, others become contrarily poorer (Ilgaz, 2000: 4-24). Stiglitz thinks that globalization can be reformed from the very beginning. A sustained and permanent growth can be achieved when this reshaping fairly takes place by giving all countries a say in the policies that affect them. By so, the positive gains obtained as a result of this growth can be shared fairly and equally and a global economy can be achieved (Stiglitz, 2002: 43).

Contrary to the opposite marginal ideas and statements advocated by extreme globalizers and globalization opponents, the group staying out of them approaches globalization more moderately.

Those taking a moderate view on globalization (the transformists) argue that globalization has advantages and opportunities together with risks. They advocate that it has positive sides as well as negative aspects.

They seek a middle course through this way of thinking. They hold the view that by controlling situations that bear risks and negativity for us, we can create opportunities under suitable conditions and that we can make use of this situation (Şen, 2008: 6).

Those belonging to this group esteem the concept of globalization as a power among the social, political, and economic realms that ensures the current order of the world and the reformation of societies. After this position is experienced, there is no difference between the inner and outer world (Hablemitoğlu, 2004: 23). Shortly, they claim that the differences in the welfare levels among the countries resulting from globalization can be eliminated by the convenient exploitation of the opportunities it offers. Therefore, the countries would have equal opportunities.

Transformists call this situation an experienced process; they state that it is not possible to stay away from this situation and it is not the right thing to reject or turn it away or to apply inward protective policies (Şen, 2008: 7).

2.4. A General Outlook on the Concept of Sustainable Development

As a word, development is defined as economic growth that paves the way for a transformation in the social and theoretical structure and that includes changes in the value judgments of the people, their world views, and consumption and behavior patterns (TDK). Development is the effort of developing countries which they perform with several regulations in all fields to catch up with the developed countries. Changing the social and economic structure, increasing the national income and production of the country, and improving the value judgments of the citizens can be added to these movements of change. As a concept, growth is used for developing countries, while development is used for developed countries (Kaypak, 2011: 22).

Sustainable development, on the other hand, is a development model that will meet the requirements of today's generation without making concessions of the capacity to meet the needs of the ones in the future (www.sürdürülebilirlik.gov.tr).

The production system that showed up with the Industrial Revolution has resulted in the use of more resources. While the increase in the production raises the income level, it also causes more consumption and environmental problems. Global climate change, air pollution, the inadequacy of water resources, and similar problems are some of the consequences of excessive production and consumption (Bayraktutan & Uçak, 2011: 18).

The environment and ecology movement, which commenced with the realization of the environmental damage caused by mankind in the 1960s, gained an international dimension in the 1970s, and the United Nations (UN) founded the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1983 (Öz Mehmet, 2008: 1855).

2.4.1. History of the Sustainable Development

The concept "sustainable development" was officially used for the first time in the report "Our Common Future" issued by the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), united in 1987 under the presidency of Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. The text published in this report defines the concept of sustainable development as follows: "meeting the requirements of today without conceding the capacity of future generations to meet their own requirements" (Aksu, 2011: 6). This report adopts an approach that combines the development notion of the 1960s with the idea of protecting the environment of the 1970s (Tekeli, 1996: 26). There are two important points in the report, the first of which is the requirements and the second one is the relationship between generations in meeting them. In terms of the requirements, meeting especially the basic needs of poor people in the world should be prioritized. While enabling these needs, the benefits obtained from natural resources should be equally distributed and the developing technology should be in harmony with the environment (Başkaya, 1997: 20-31).

The member states of the United Nations held a conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. This conference emphasized that human beings are the heart of sustainable development and that people possess the right to have a productive, healthy, and nature-friendly life (Gömceli, 2019: 31). The scope of the concept of sustainable development has expanded considerably and found a place in various realms. A declaration called "Agenda 21" within the conference thoroughly covered and discussed the issues such as sustainable human life, sustainable agriculture, and accordingly, promoting rural development and sustainability (Bozlağan, 2005: 1020).

Shortly after this conference, the "Sustainable Development Commission" was founded within the economic and social council of the United Nations in 1993. This commission was established as per the relevant article of the "Agenda 21 Declaration" released after the Rio conference. The purpose of this commission is to ensure the application and effective monitoring of accepted principles and provisions, to warrant international cooperation, and to examine the advancements regarding the implementation of "Agenda 21" at the regional and international level (Bozlağan, 2005: 1021). Besides, the 1992 European Action Plan, 1994 Cairo Conference on Population and Development, 1995 Beijing 4th World Conference on Women, and 1996 Istanbul Habitat 2 Conference are among the important developments for ensuring sustainable development (Eryılmaz, 2011: 10).

In September 2000, the "Millennium Summit" mainly aiming to fight against hunger and poverty, was held under the leadership of the UN and with the participation of the leaders and representatives of countries. Some goals were determined and acknowledged in this summit. These are;

- ✓ Removing hunger and poverty
- ✓ Achieving a universal primary education
- ✓ Empowering women and promoting gender equality
- ✓ Reducing child mortality
- ✓ Improving maternal health
- ✓ Combatting particular diseases (malaria, AIDS, etc.)
- ✓ Ensuring environmental sustainability
- ✓ Achieving partnership for development.

In September 2015, in the session held in the United Nations General Assembly; heads of states, UN representatives and non-governmental organizations united and agreed on several goals for a more livable world in 2030. These goals consisting of 17 articles are as follows:

- ✓ Eradicating all kinds of poverty in the world no matter where it takes place
- ✓ Ending hunger, improving people's nutrition opportunities, ensuring and supporting sustainability in agriculture
- ✓ To provide good health for people and achieve their well-being at all ages.
- ✓ To ensure that children of all ages have right to equal education, regardless of their gender.
- ✓ To ensure gender equality
- ✓ To provide clean water and sanitation services for all
- ✓ To provide reliable, sustainable, and modern energy
- ✓ To ensure decent production, employment, and economic development
- ✓ To build a strong infrastructure, to promote sustainable and inclusive industry and innovations
- ✓ To reduce the inequality within and among the countries
- ✓ To render the cities and settlements strong and reliable
- ✓ To ensure sustainable production and consumption models
- ✓ To fight against climate change and its effects
- ✓ To utilize and preserve the oceans and seas in a sustainable way for sustainable development
- ✓ To protect terrestrial ecosystems, to ensure sustainable use of forests, and to stop the loss of soil productivity
- ✓ To produce peaceful and embrave solutions for sustainable development
- ✓ Strengthening the implementation tools of global partnership for sustainable development and revitalizing global partnership (UNESCO, 2015).

2.4.2. Objectives of Sustainable Development

Sustainable development aims at a development process that essentially advocates ecological balance. When we consider in terms of benefit, it projects that short-term economic benefits shall be replaced by long-term and intergenerational social and ecological benefits (Dulupçu, 2001: 46-70). Thus, both the natural balance will be preserved and a sustainable development that considers the future generations will be fulfilled (Uçak, 2011: 20).

The aims of sustainable development can be specified as follows (Han & Kaya, 2006: 258-259):

- ✓ Changing the nature of growth and revitalizing it
- ✓ Providing the basic needs of people in the fields of food, energy, and health
- ✓ Ensuring a sustainable growth of population
- ✓ Protection of resource reserves
- ✓ Reconduct and direction of technology
- ✓ Combining the economy and the environment in the decision-making process.

Sustainable development requires respect for all systems that have been created by individuals besides the natural ecosystem. Abiding by these rules contributes to the restoration of damaged ecosystems and prevents the decrease and draining away of natural capital. Individuals should be informed about these issues for the sake of maintaining the natural balance in the ecosystem and for protecting biological diversity. It is important to form a balanced development in narrow economies. Preserving the sustainment of unnatural systems for quality development relates to the realization of cultural heritage. Because of these reasons, it is aimed to teach society about moral order and environmental consciousness. In this context, the “Coalition for Environmentally Responsible Economies” was founded in 1989 and the responsibilities that enterprises should carry out were grouped under ten titles (Gömceli, 2019: 14-16).

- ✓ Protection of the biosphere
- ✓ Sustainable use of natural resources
- ✓ Reduction and disposal of wastes
- ✓ Energy conservation
- ✓ Risk reduction
- ✓ Safe products and services
- ✓ Environmental restoration
- ✓ Informing the public
- ✓ Management commitment
- ✓ Audits and reports

The sustainable development goals, which appeared as a result of the damage caused by the people to the environment in consequence of the increasing world population, increasing production, and technological developments, are to minimize the damage and to raise awareness for the individuals to sustain the fulfillment of the future generations' requirements. (Eryılmaz, 2011: 15).

3. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GLOBALIZATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The current population of the world is 7.8 billion (Worldometer). Since the “Industrial Revolution”, a rapid increase in the population has taken place with economic development and growth. The increasing population has led to an increase in consumption and demand, and more capital was needed to meet these demands. The greater increase in the capital required more and more use of resources. Especially, the wastes of non-renewable resources of inputs cause more damage to the environment, and accordingly, humanity is faced with the problem of famine (Başar, 2007: 38).

Contemporarily speaking, developed and developing countries, rapidly developing industries, and our natural resources facing the danger of depletion as a result of these cause concerns about our gradually increasing population, the future, and the environment (Baykal and Baykal, 2008: 3). Sustainable development for

countries is possible only with a sustainable environment. This can be achieved through the sustainment, productivity, and effective use of our natural resources (Kaypak, 2011: 26). Gaining more importance since the 1990s the sustainability, which advocates the necessity of integrity between the environment and development, can only be possible with multi-actor approaches (Uzel, 2006: 103-104).

The problems in the environment brought by globalization are now a reality accepted by everyone. The increasing emission rates around the world could be an example of this. Researches show that the biosphere layer has been destroyed due to the actions of people since the 1970s. The biggest cause of this destruction is the use of fossil fuels. As we continue to consume more than what nature has given us, the exhaust gases released into the atmosphere increase and this endangers our lives (Sach, 'Sach'dan aktaran Kılıç', 2008: 35).

4. CONCLUSION

Globalization is the name of our age along with being both the cause and the result of the developments and changes experienced in this age. Especially the developments after the Industrial Revolution pushed human beings to produce and consume more, and the countries to exchange these products through foreign trade. This process, nourished by more liberal policies and practices, has been the most essential factor in deepening the phenomenon of globalization. Thanks to these new connections among the countries, social and cultural interactions have also been inevitable. These interactions cause both negative and positive situations. The positive interactions that the countries experience in technological, educational, and similar areas have caused the weak societies to degenerate culturally by diminishing themselves.

Increasing foreign trade and cash flows enriched the countries and this increased consumption as well as production. Increased consumption has resulted in excessive and negligent use of existing resources and this has become a threat to future generations. As a result of the excessive production-consumption model dictated by globalization, growth-oriented countries and multinational companies perform their production at the cost of damaging and even eradicating the world's scarce resources and ecological balance. Especially after the 1980s, awareness and efforts for acting against this situation have increased and the concept of sustainable development has come into our lives. Sustainable development signifies the production model which is conducted by considering the rights of the next generations to meet the requirements of existing people with current scarce resources. Within the framework of this understanding, countries come together on many platforms and perform various joint studies. Although each country seems to be a separate nation-state on its own, the awareness that the earth and resources are our common values and the perception that ecological negativity in any country will consequently affect all countries in the world are gaining more importance day by day. From this perspective, the interest and awareness in the concept of sustainable development gradually increase and the studies accelerate in accordance with the main objectives. In this context, the 2030 objectives of the United Nations attract attention and serve as a guide on this path. Briefly, these objectives are surpassing the biggest challenges to growth and development especially in underdeveloped and developing countries such as regulating population policies, increasing human capital investments, eliminating financing and infrastructural deficiencies, and ensuring fair income distribution. For all countries of the world, it is a common duty to support production models performed with sustainable development-based renewable resources, technologies compatible with the ecological system, and green investments; and to fight against environmental pollution, environmental destruction, extinction of living species, poor soil quality, drying up of water resources, natural disasters, climate change, and global warming. Within the framework of these efforts, non-governmental organizations, the business world and all economic circles, local administrations, and all units of the society should actively participate in this process. National and supranational sanctions must be applied to any people, institutions, organizations, and countries that do not fulfill their responsibilities towards the environment and damage it.

To render a successful sustainable development, since the environmentally sensitive investments require high costs, experience, and knowledge, it is almost a necessity for developed countries to help others in the adaptation and spreading process. Besides, all countries of the world must produce and implement educational policies aimed at generations that will grow up with ecological awareness and sensitivity.

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