



**GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY  
BACKGROUND  
*TOPIC A***

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# GENERAL ASSEMBLY



## Introduction:

### “Sustainable Development in a World in the Process of Globalization”

We, as a Chair, are pleased to welcome you, delegates to the 15th edition of the Model of the United Nations Instituto Oriente. The General Assembly is very thankful that you have chosen this committee in order to debate about problems that are affecting and changing our world nowadays.

The Chair will conduct a vote process in accordance with the General Assembly's procedure, during which one of the two predetermined subjects will be chosen and submitted to the delegates for further consideration during the model.

The first topic was chosen in order to discuss the importance of sustainable development in our world and the urge for this to happen, but taking in account the fact of living in the process of globalization with this affecting all the vital elements in our lives, such as economic, cultural and social issues.

The phrase "sustainable development" was first used in our language a decade ago, and the significance given to it is reflected in the extensive body of literature that argues for the need to reexamine the current relationship between people and the environment. On the other hand, globalization integrates the countries around the globe economically, politically and socially.

The sustainable development strategy seeks to identify the most appropriate criteria for the optimization of the needs-resources ratios, the objectives to be attained, and the necessary means, based on mutual compatibility, in time and space, starting with the factors that influence one another in the development process: population, resources, agricultural production, industrial production, and pollution.

However, different channels demonstrate how globalization affects sustainable development.

The first channel of globalization can be referred to as the scale effect, which explains that as economic activities and income generation opportunities are produced as a consequence of globalization, there would be an extensive use of natural resources; as a result, they lead to environmental degradation, especially in those economies where policy as well as market failure exists. The income effect is the second way that globalization affects sustainable development. The rise in income levels

brought on by globalization leads to higher spending, which may have an impact on environmental quality.

In order to handle the concerns raised by globalization, global governance is essentially required. This governance must be able to recognize the interconnectedness and complexity of the problems at hand and work toward finding solutions for those who are involved.

A type of global governance is required for two reasons: first, globalization forges ever-closer connections between the world's regions, as well as between challenges and the remedies they require; and second, because the globe is becoming more and more interconnected. In addition, it is accompanied by a growing sense of unity or, at the very least, shared destiny. This serves as a reminder that there are fundamentally shared objectives such as greater equality, peace, and sustainable development as well as shared values.

The purpose of this document is to provide valuable tools, which will help delegates to understand the topic, acknowledge fundamental details, and use this information to support their posture with persuasive and informative arguments. Also, the information given must impulse delegates to investigate the matter thoroughly to get a better comprehension, raise awareness and permit the fluence of the debate.



## History of the Committee

The General Assembly, the primary decision-making, policy-making, and representative organ of the United Nations, was established in 1945 in accordance with the United Nations Charter. The assembly's first session began on January 10, 1946, in London, with 51 nations participating. There were 193 members of the General Assembly as of 2006.

The Assembly advises States on global issues that fall under its purview. Additionally, it has taken action in relation to monetary, humanitarian, social, and legal issues, as well as across all United Nations pillars, however, its primary role is to find and debate possible solutions and recommendations for global issues.

At the United Nations General Assembly, resolutions and decisions are passed by a majority of the voting, present Member States. A two-thirds majority is required to decide on significant issues, such as suggestions about global peace and security, the election of members to some of the United Nations' primary organizations, and budgetary issues. Although the General Assembly's decisions are not legally binding on states, they do carry the moral authority of the entire world and the weight of public opinion.

Each Member State may be represented by one person on each Main Committee - there are six in total - and on any other committee that may be established upon which all Member States have the right to be represented.

From September to December of every year, the Assembly convenes in regular sessions, and then as needed beyond that. Through specific agenda items or sub-topics, it examines certain issues, which results in the adoption of resolutions.

The General Assembly's work has been consistently aimed at becoming more focused and pertinent. The 58th session was when this was initially noted as a priority, and work to streamline the agenda, enhance the practices and working procedures of the Main Committees.

The agenda is programmed annually and in its first plenary session, the General Assembly shall elect a president, who shall hold office until the close of the Assembly session. The election shall be by the vote of a majority of the member states, this year Csaba Kőrösi was elected to manage the president role of the 77th Session of the General Assembly. Another permanent organ of the organization, is the Secretariat of the committee, who is the Secretary General of United Nations, this one

provides adequate services and shall carry out the duties and assignments given by the Assembly.

The Assembly met several times in 2022 to discuss the suggestions made by the Secretary-General in his report titled "Our Common Agenda," an action plan intended to strengthen and expedite multilateral agreements, particularly the 2030 Agenda, make a real difference in people's lives and take action about sustainable development goals.

Development, disarmament, human rights, international law, and the peaceful settlement of conflicts between states are among the topics that the General Assembly is mandated to consider, debate, and offer solutions for.

## Long term:

### Concept and history of sustainable development

When the original idea of sustainable development was first presented in 1972, it was widely adopted as a vision that acknowledged how interwoven social, economic, and environmental challenges are.

But it was not until the 1992 Rio "Earth Summit" that the idea of sustainable development quickly spread and sparked a wider awareness of the world's most pressing environmental issues and inequalities. It was a turning point because it acknowledged that there were issues and challenges that affected the entire world and all of humanity and looked for situations where shared responsibility might be formed. Therefore, the scope of global issues was significantly extended to encompass issues like the environment, health, trade, and inequality. It also emphasized the connections between globalization, global threats, and shared obligations that made it necessary for the international community to take coordinated action.

With the recognition of the term by society, it brought with it the creation of new programs, documents, and strategies, such as the political agenda for sustainable development, that concentrates at least on processes (relative to extraction, manufacturing, transportation, agriculture, energy, building, etc.), but it can also include technical advancements and more interdisciplinary social systems.

### Globalization and its consequences in the world

Globalization is typically seen as an economic phenomenon associated with the emergence, expansion, and consolidation of the global market, and it has come to be associated with areas that were previously thought to have little influence on economic progress.

With regard to the functions of the government, employees, and citizens in the new economic system, globalization presents new governance issues. According to the relative effectiveness of regulation/compensation regimes and the degree to which economies incorporate the ethics of fair play in their practices, the degree to which the "externalities" of production—harmful effects on health, safety, and the environment—are internalized varies among nation-states. Good labor and environmental norms and practices have been an ongoing conflict to create within nations. With the emergence of worldwide, competitive marketplaces, the focus has now switched to

standardization through ILO (International Labour Organization) conventions and multilateral environmental agreements, with only a tepid degree of success.

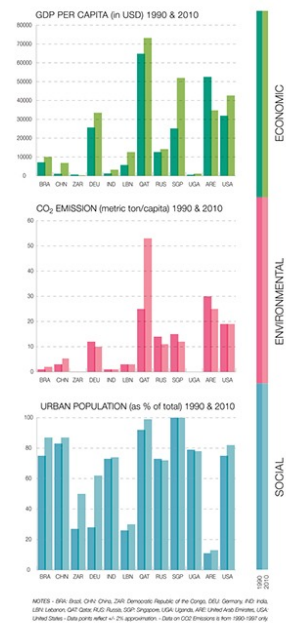
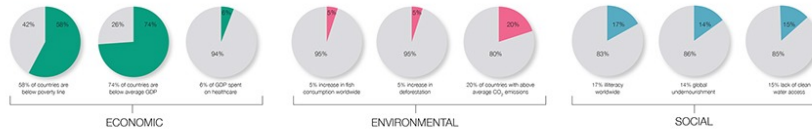
# IS CONSTANT GROWTH SUSTAINABLE?

Sustainable development thrives on balance — the balance between economic, social and environmental factors. Comparing the level of urbanization of nations with their change in GDP and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, reveals their varied interplay and questions their co-relation.



## INDICATIONS OF GLOBAL IMBALANCE

When countries are compared, there is a stark contrast in a range of economic, environmental, and social measures. The imbalance of economic factors in particular need to be normalized to create balance that supports sustainable development.



## The association between both terms

Global recognition of the necessity for environmental protection policies in development planning procedures resulted in the birth and promotion of sustainable development in the 1980s (World Commission on Environment and Development WCED, 1987). Over the last three decades, the scope of sustainable development has expanded to cover public health, population growth and migration, and global scarcity reduction (European Commission, 2005; European Council, 2006). Unfortunately, sustainable development research has increasingly concentrated on environmental conservation and natural resource management, with little regard for developing-urbanization repercussions.

## Short term:

### Economic

Nowadays, rigid industries with stagnating processes confront substantial challenges in becoming significantly more sustainable. Shifts from products to 'product services' rely on changes in product usage, location, and ownership, in which mature product producers may participate, but this necessitates considerable adjustments involving managerial, institutional, organizational, and social (customer) innovations. Changes in socio-technical systems' like transportation or agriculture are considerably more challenging. This shows that using government intervention creatively is a more promising strategic method for accomplishing permanent industrial changes as relying on more neoliberal policies based on enterprises' short-term economic self-interest.

The increased scale of economic activity, which leads to the increasing impacts on a finite Earth, results from both major demographic changes, such as population growth, shifts in age structure, urbanization, and spatial redistributions through migration and rising per capita income, and shifts in consumption patterns, such as increases in immediate consumption with rising income. At the same time, many people consume insufficiently. In 2015, 10% of the world's population (736 million) lived in abject neediness, with daily incomes of less than \$1.90. In 2017, 821 million people were malnourished, representing an increase in the number of malnourished persons reported from 2016.

More economic development is urgently needed to take individuals out of these kinds of situations. Furthermore, rising inequality, which leads to increased polarization of society, is a challenge to attaining sustainable development. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals emphasize eradicating shortage and hunger, promoting gender equality, and reducing inequality.

Countries are reluctant to relinquish national sovereignty, and only where there is a trend toward major economic integration there are triumphs in harmonization. However, globalization has created an even more complex set of challenges through the establishment of trade regimes such as the WTO (World Trade Organization), ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), and NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), where the term 'fair trade' means the elimination

(or equalization) of tariffs and so-called non-tariff trade barriers that conflict with trade objectives.

### Social

Despite improvements in the delivery of these essential services, billions of people continue to lack access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene. Water scarcity is becoming an increasingly serious issue in many regions of the world, and conflicts and climate change are worsening the situation. Furthermore, water pollution is a big problem in many nations, affecting both human health and the environment.

Taking it from another point of view, ecological modernization has evolved as a theory as well as the primary political ideology to address global sustainability concerns. With ecological modernization, great emphasis is placed on technological research and development in the belief that innovation will lead the global economy in the direction of sustainability.

### Future plans

All United Nations Member States approved the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 in order to give a better life quality, decrease inequality, and develop a more peaceful, affluent society by 2030. The SDGs, often known as the Global Goals, advocate for a world in which no one is left behind. UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) collaborates with governments, partners, and other UN agencies to assist nations in ensuring that the Goals achieve results for all children now and in the future.





## The position of the United Nations:

### Posture

The United Nations recognizes that globalization has made the world highly interconnected and that challenges faced by one region can have far-reaching implications for others. Therefore, global cooperation is needed to tackle sustainable development issues, as no country can move forward alone.

"To ensure that globalization can be harnessed to support inclusive growth and sustainable development, it is necessary to analyze the current system and emerging trends to design policy solutions," said Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General of UN DESA's (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs) in a new report, "The Promise of Globalization: Promoting Sustainable Development in an Interconnected World," which emphasizes that globalization can be an important driver of economic growth, but to achieve sustainability, globalization must benefit everyone. Liu said and also emphasized that "global agreements can play a key role in enhancing the benefits of globalization.

The greatest challenges to people's and planet's well-being are global in nature and require global solutions embedded within the framework of effective global institutions. Global agreements can play a key role in enhancing the benefits of globalization, and global institutional and normative frameworks must be in place to ensure that globalization benefits all countries and leaves no one behind.

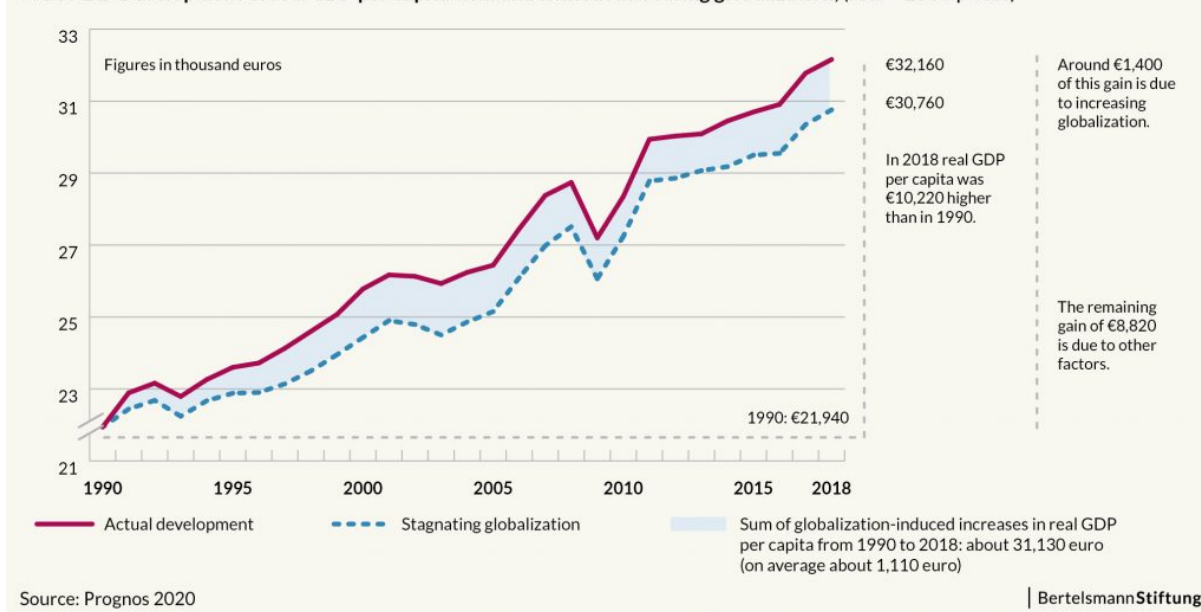
The United Nations and other international organizations have a role in setting the norms to ensure that globalization works for all. The UN, in particular, plays a global normative role, reflected in its landmark agreements. As the challenges and circumstances of globalization are country-specific, its system also plays a key role in helping countries to develop concrete approaches to reap the benefits of globalization and address development challenges.

### Some precursors of the UN with the topic

Globalization is not a new phenomenon, it has had an impact on people and society for more than two centuries. Reshaping this as a positive force requires analyzing the lessons of past globalization stagnation and addressing emerging challenges through collective action.

In recent decades, the forces of globalization and increasing economic interdependence have driven rapid economic growth in many countries and regions, pushing global gross domestic product (GDP) from about US\$50 trillion in 2000 to US\$75 trillion. It has been a particularly important engine of economic growth. However, in recent years, trade growth has stagnated. Trade grew twice as fast as GDP from 1985 to 2007, but has barely outpaced GDP growth since 2012.

FIGURE 2 Development of real GDP per capita with and without increasing globalization, (real = 2000 prices)



Analyzing the challenges and opportunities of the current system and emerging trends is critical to ensuring that globalization can be harnessed to support broad-based and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development in order to develop policy solutions to address these issues.

### Solutions and treaties by the United Nations

The United Nations Summit to Adopt a Post-2015 Development Agenda, held in September and convened as a high-level plenary session of the General Assembly, represents the culmination of years of research and negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, and it is a bold move. A vision of sustainable development for all. More than 150 world leaders attend the summit to identify 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to address global challenges such as penury, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice formally adopted. This goal must benefit all people in all countries of the world.

Such global agreements already exist in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Finance for Development, and the Paris Climate Agreement. Liu, the Secretary

General of the United Nations, described it as "a prescriptive action plan to address the many challenges that come with globalization."

The international community will strive to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global agreements as a roadmap for promoting sustainable development.

The global momentum to implement the 2030 Agenda represents a new frontier for international cooperation, far beyond the efforts of previous waves of globalization. The effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda will reach the goal of helping ensure that normative and institutional deficiencies are addressed more holistically than previous waves of globalization, that the benefits of globalization are shared more evenly, and that no one is left behind.

## Controversy Points:

### Why is the topic controversial?

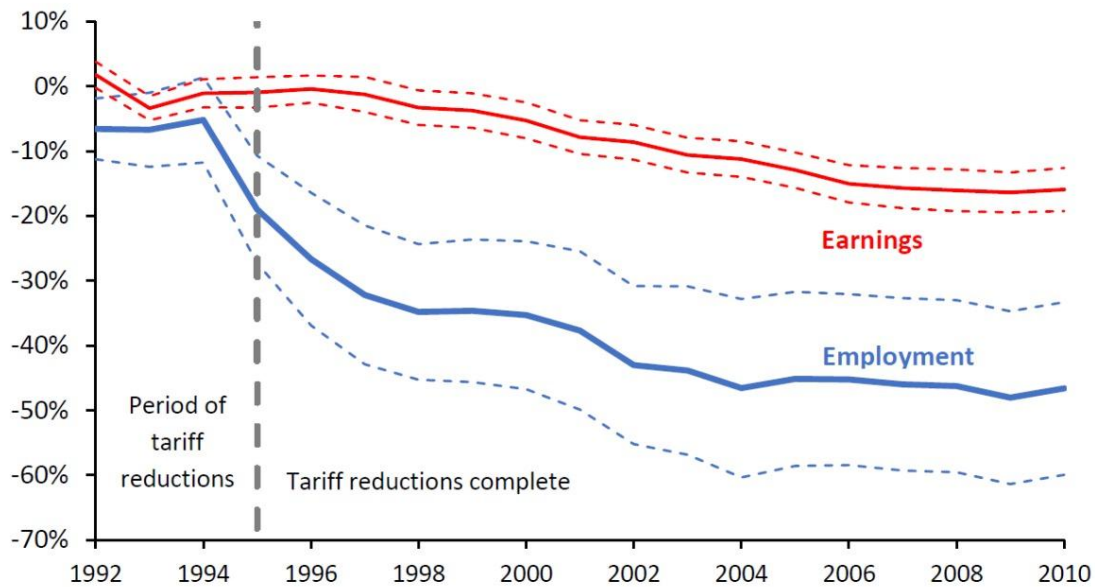
Sustainable development is not a new issue, however, globalization has indirectly affected the process of this with multiple changes, being discreet in its progress as it is not a fully known concept.

It is known the positive and negative impacts that globalization has left and will continue to leave on our planet; globalization has left a great advance in terms of communication between countries, better economic relations, cultural learning and social advances. But it must not be forgotten the disadvantages that still exist within a globalized world, a global interdependence has been created, in which it is impossible for several countries to survive on their own.

"Sustainable development in a world in the process of globalization" shows how globalization has affected the UN's sustainable goals and the readaptation of initial proposals to a world in constant change, interconnected and with diplomatic international relations to fulfill, being a controversial issue since there are countries that have not been able to update themselves in the concept of globalization, as would be the developing countries, creating a global frustration and a questioning on the possibility of meeting the current UN goals based on the 2030 Agenda.

### Postures on the topic

When examining the advantages and disadvantages of globalization, there are people who either accept it wholeheartedly, viewing it as a panacea, or who vehemently oppose it. Beyond the extreme theses, it is clear that the globalization process has fundamentally altered the "geography" of the world, increasing inequality, restricting the ability of nations to intervene, and emphasizing the welfare state's limitations. The tendency for ideas, cultures, values, and ways of life to become homogeneous, the expansion of supranational political regimes, the risk of economic and social instability, and the marginalization of some nations are all mentioned as effects of globalization.



In the World Bank perspective, the main negative effect of globalization is the countries' exposure to strong external shocks caused by the financial-banking crises, which are more and more numerous. The deterioration of the world distribution of incomes is not ignored either, which in fact contradicts the basic globalization suppositions regarding the general and sustainable growth of the states (World Bank, 2002)

One of the most renowned theories in this sense is that put forward by William R. Kerr (director of studies) in 1973 (Kerr et al, 1973, p. 54). He emphasizes that technology has the effect of rendering things homogenous, industrial societies speaking a universal language. Other researchers regard the phenomenon mainly through a technological determinism as well, such as Robertson (sociologist) and Axford (politics teacher) whom globalization is a process of compression on a global market, possibly first of all due to the progress in communications and which at the same time intensifies the perception on the world as a whole (Robertson, 1992, p. 8; Axford, 1995, p. 4.). In his turn, Richard Langhorne (politics teacher) refers to globalization as the last stage in a long process of technological development which provides people with the possibility to carry on with their activity and do business anywhere in the world, at any time, irrespective of nationality and residence (Langhorne, 2001, p. 2).

On the other hand, other academics believe that it is frequently misunderstood that the technology and information revolution was primarily responsible for globalization (Plihon, 2001, p. 64–73). The actions taken by nations and governments in an effort to address internal economic crises—that were also exacerbated by a number of external shocks—as well as the need to fund budget and trade balance deficits are cited as causes of the present economic shifts.

### Why is there a debate?

Several reports of the General Assembly have affirmed that sustainable development is still further away than close and with the process of globalization some of the goals have been affected and delayed in their estimated achievement date, so the real disagreement arises in knowing if there is a point in continuing with these proposals towards sustainable development, if they have a future and knowing that some countries seek more expansion in their economy, culture and society than thinking about goals that will help the planet more than resources.

Global growth and sustainable development are being impacted by globalization.

The movement of products, services, capital, labor, and technology is what is driving this situation, opening up a variety of new opportunities and difficulties in putting sustainable development into practice. There are a lot of new prospects and advantages because of globalization. The worldwide integration of production processes, for instance, is accelerating thanks to information and communication technology (ICT).

The application of concessional flows from the wealthy to the penury can no longer be used to maintain the prosperity, security, and sustainability of our planet; instead, it must be built on numerous activities made by everyone, everywhere in the world. Developed nation's domestic policies have a crucial role in how they assist the advancement of the development agenda. The success or failure of the new agenda will depend on the continued, high-quality engagement of governments, United Nations agencies, the commercial sector, civil society, and academia.



## Objectives:

In this edition, The General Assembly invites the delegates to search and propose viable solutions in order to create changes in a world where globalization and sustainable development can take the best of each conception and work together, despite the fact that today their statements may contradict each other.

In this section, delegates will find the key points and objectives that are considered to be the main and transcendent in the process of implementing sustainable development in the environment in which the population lives today, with obstacles and tools such as globalization.

Through more detailed and elaborated solutions, some of the proposals that should be discussed during the debate should concentrate on targeting the next objectives:

- Improving the economy to make it sustainable, as a great advance in our world.
- Find solutions to the lack of information and normatives in the aspects that sustainability works with.
- Check out about the consumption control in society and how this could help the people's lifestyle.
- Take into account the necessities of the people, the advantages of globalization and the importance of sustainable development.
- Improve the awareness of the population about sustainable development and the consequences of being indifferent about the importance of the topic.

The Chair is aware that a global governance is required to address the challenges of globalization. This governance must be able to recognize the interconnectedness and complexity of the issues at hand and work toward finding solutions that involve all parties. It should include a wide range of institutions, procedures, social bodies, representational systems, and information systems that would allow human societies to peacefully and sustainably manage their various forms of interdependence and their integration into the biosphere, also, We as a Chair are convinced that sustainable human development can lead to a type of social organization that gives everyone genuine freedom of choice between alternative forms of consumption, employment, saving,

and time usage, all of which are consistent with their human and environmental environs.

With this affair it is intended to create awareness in the delegates so that they can develop a critical stance according to their country that will allow them to question the information and measures that have been taken in order to achieve the goals of sustainable development with the support of globalization, taking in consideration that the world is constantly changing as well as their needs and complications.

## Conclusion:

Having exposed the problems and situations that exist on the subject, the General Assembly, being the main body of the United Nations, plays an extremely important role in global peace and security.

For years, sustainable development has been harmed and delayed in its goals by globalization, however, in this document it can be seen that both can complement each other to achieve their own objectives without affecting the progress that each one presents in a positive way to the world.

Likewise, due to the challenges previously exposed, it is necessary to give the importance and seriousness that the 17 sustainable development goals deserve, as they are interrelated through the multiple global adversities, as well as to carry them out through effective solutions with the support of globalization.

The Chair expects that after having exhibited the main points, the delegates will give their best, demonstrating their critical thinking skills by having an active participation throughout the model and stand out in the search for solutions in the course of the debate, in order to make this model one of the best experiences for the personal growth of each of the participants.

The General Assembly feels very fortunate and grateful to be part of the 15th edition of the Model of the United Nations of the Instituto Oriente, as well as to thank each of the delegates who were interested in the committee and the topics, trusted The Chair and were willing to generate changes and find solutions for future generations. It is understood the commitment that this entails, be confident that your effort is highly appreciated and recognized, keep in mind that the president, the secretary and the moderator of this committee will be at your disposal to support and guide you in the process.

Are you ready to make a change?

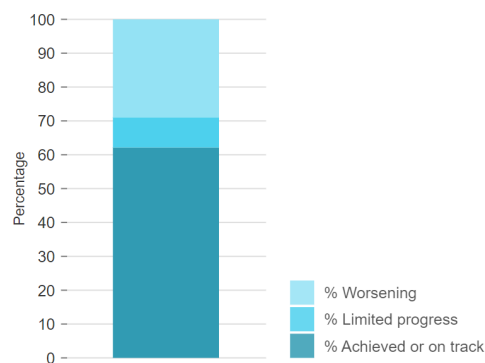
## Countries involved:

### Finland

Finland is well renowned for its steadfast dedication to sustainable development, and this devotion is reflected in the country's position within a globalized society. In numerous global sustainability and quality of life indicators, Finland has continuously achieved excellent rankings. The position of Finland on sustainable development in the context of globalization can be summarized in the following key points.

It also has been a leader in promoting the circular economy, which aims to reduce waste and resource consumption by reusing, remanufacturing, and recycling goods and resources. The goals of global sustainability are supported by this strategy.

Status of SDG targets for Finland (% trend indicators)



### United States of America

In a globalized world, The United States takes a diverse approach to sustainable development. Its strategy is impacted by a range of factors, including political objectives, commercial objectives, environmental considerations, and international obligations.

The U.S. strategy, which goes beyond foreign aid and incorporates its policies in the UN system and other international fora, highlights the interconnectedness of the SDGs.

This strategy is represented in OMB Bulletin No. 12-01, which was released in September 2012 and listed 22 federal agencies as "possessing a foreign assistance portfolio."

## Niger

As one of the greatest economies in Africa, Nigeria has concentrated on economic growth and development to fight inequality and raise the living standards of its people. This has prompted large investments in industries like infrastructure, agriculture, and the oil and gas industry.

Despite this, the economy of Niger is inadequately diversified, with 40% of its GDP coming from agriculture. In 2021, more than 10 million people (41.8 percent of the population) were considered to be extremely vulnerable.

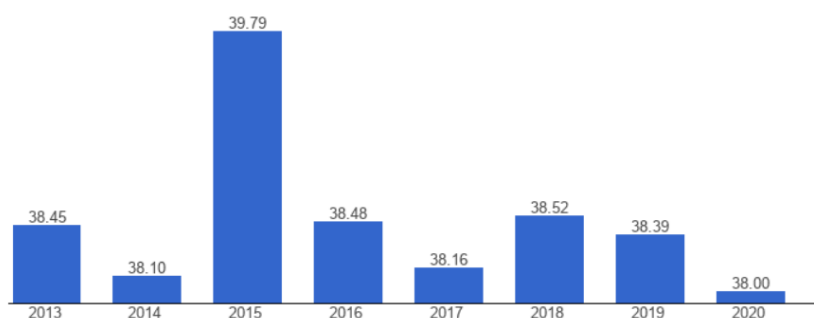
Refugees fleeing conflict in Nigeria and Mali are flooding into Niger, which is causing problems. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had counted 294,467 refugees and about 350,000 internally displaced people in the nation as of August 31, 2022.

## Afghanistan

Afghanistan has faced significant political, security, and economic challenges, and its posture toward sustainable development in the context of globalization has been influenced by these factors. It's important to note that the situation in Afghanistan may have evolved since then, especially following the events of August 2021.

Afghanistan's three-phased SDG implementation has received assistance from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The UNDP helped national institutions become more capable and assisted them in creating better plans, budgets, and responses to development priorities. Additionally, UNDP enhanced the Ministry of Economy's ability to track and assess the status of the restructuring process.

Recent values



*Countries in G5:*

1. French Republic
2. People's Republic of China
3. Russian Federation
4. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
5. United States of America

*Members of the organization:*

6. Democratic Republic of the Congo
7. Federal Republic of Germany
8. Federative Republic of Brazil
9. Republic of Finland
10. Republic of Niger
11. The Federation of Malaya
12. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan
13. The Kingdom of Belgium
14. The Kingdom of Denmark
15. The Kingdom of Sweden
16. The People's Republic of China
17. The Republic of Austria
18. The Republic of Chile
19. The Republic of Madagascar
20. The Republic of South Africa
21. The Swiss Confederation
22. United Mexican States



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### Short and long term

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