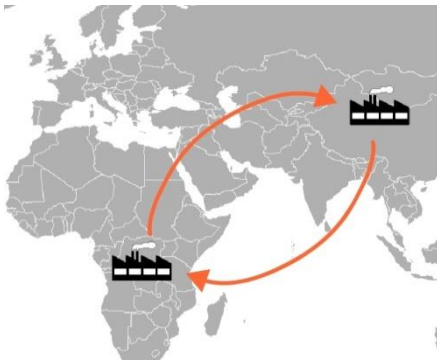


What is globalization?

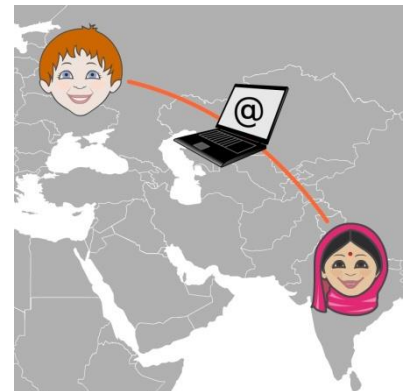
There are approximately 200 countries in the world, and each one is different. Previously, when traveling was not yet as fast and convenient, people generally stayed in the country where they were born. They grew up there, went to school, lived and worked there, usually for their entire lives.

Today things are different. People can travel to other countries in a short time by ship or plane. Some people do not spend just their vacations there. They move to another country to live and work there. They might do so because there are not enough jobs in their country. Others are persecuted in their home country and must flee.



Many companies today also have factories in various countries and send people to work there. And companies from different countries in the world often cooperate. They buy goods from other countries or sell their goods there.

Global cooperation is possible thanks to modern technology, such as airplanes and the Internet. Using the Internet, people can contact each other at any time, no matter where they are in the world at the time. Thanks to the constant connection, the countries of the world and people are moving closer together.



All of these developments are summed up under the term **globalization**.

Unfortunately, globalization, the international community growing together, also has its disadvantages:

- In poorer countries, such as in Bangladesh in Asia, the people are paid lower wages for their work than in rich countries, such as in Germany. For this reason, many companies in rich countries have the people in poor countries work for them to save money. However, the people in the rich countries can lose their jobs as a result.
- In poor countries, even children must often work in factories to support their families. They receive particularly low wages, which makes it even cheaper to produce goods.
- The environment also suffers from this development: Especially in the poor countries, there are few or no laws, for example, to protect the environment from harmful exhaust gases from the factories.
- The environment also suffers from this development, especially in poor countries where there are few or no laws to protect the environment from toxic waste emitted by factories.