

Shaping a Globalized World: Global Policy Council



Global Policy Council

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“The Global Policy Council is like the UN – not as they are, but how they should be.”

Lalit Mansingh

Former Foreign Secretary of the Republic of India



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About the Global Policy Council

The Global Policy Council (GPC), which the Bertelsmann Stiftung created in 2006, is a recurring brainstorming meeting of leading global-affairs thinkers. The GPC aims to identify and discuss the components of a truly global agenda and to develop a fresh approach to global governance that is more holistic and more inclusive than previous efforts.

In preparation for each GPC, think-tank representatives from around the world contribute expert reports on the essential challenges of the globalized world from the perspective of their particular country or region. These reports highlight preferred mechanisms for confronting issues of globalization. As such, this international group sets the thematic foci of the meeting.

The GPC generates ideas through various formats, ranging from panel discussions, dinner debates, interviews, and the sharing of expert reports.

Josef Janning,
Bertelsmann Stiftung



Roundtable Discussion,
GPC 2009



Wolfgang Schüssel,
former Federal
Chancellor of the
Republic of Austria
Dinner Debate



About the Global Policy Council

The GPC started in June 2006 in Berlin with a stock taking exercise on key issues of power and order. Reflecting on the breathtaking speed with which the geopolitical landscape had changed within only 15 years, special attention was dedicated to the new ambiguity which exists in today's international order. Firstly, growing interconnectedness drives up the interests of all stakeholders in maintaining the system, because disruptions will be felt by every member. Secondly, it is precisely this interconnectedness that amplifies the impact of potential disruptions to the system.

During the discussions of the first meeting, it was Henry Kissinger who suggested reflecting more systematically on a world with 30 or more nuclear states. Though the spread of nuclear weapons poses not a complete new security threat, in light of the developments in North Korea and Iran it was found crucial to ground further deliberations of the GPC with a thorough analysis of the current proliferation dynamics and their implications for world order. Accordingly, the second meeting of the GPC in October 2007 dealt with scenarios of the proliferation risks in East Asia. The other focal point of the session was the impact of China and Japan on regional and global order.

James L. Jones



Lakhdar Brahimi

Wolfgang Schäuble



About the Global Policy Council

The third GPC was held in March 2009 and focused on the issues and priorities of the emerging global agenda. As the discussions made very clear, finding a common global agenda evidently becomes a difficult task, as it is more than just an exercise which consists of defining a number of items. Rather, a truly global agenda must be concerned with reconciling interests, understanding all actors as having an equal footing and pursuing the global good.

At the Bertelsmann Stiftung, we are convinced that there is no alternative to managing globalization politically. For this reason, we decided to meet the challenge and engage in the debate on global governance with the project “Shaping a Globalized World” and its core component the GPC. In times of rapid change worldwide, such a debate is more relevant than ever.



Abdulaziz Sager



Carlos Pascual

Global Policy Council 2009

To open the GPC 2009, Helmut Schmidt and Henry Kissinger discussed the implications of the current global economic crisis and the long standing challenge of nuclear proliferation. Their insights on the necessary structures for the effective international management of these issues inspired the debates to come.

A detailed conference report summarizing the debates and discussions at the 2009 GPC meeting is available [here](#).

“Study groups like [the GPC] have a special function. What is needed is to find the road from where one is to where one wants to go, which depends on the ability to accumulate new answers and to understand the essence of the problems.”

Henry Kissinger
GPC 2009



Issues in Focus

Several crises in 2007-2009 demonstrated the immense degree of interconnectedness that characterizes the globalized world today. Therefore, themes of interconnectedness and interdependence guided governance discussions in each issue area analyzed.

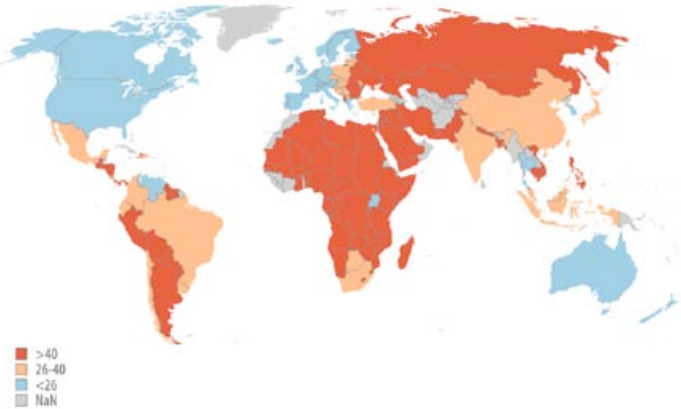
Global Financial and Economic Crisis

Financial Crisis 2008-2009 Market Falls Bailouts Recession



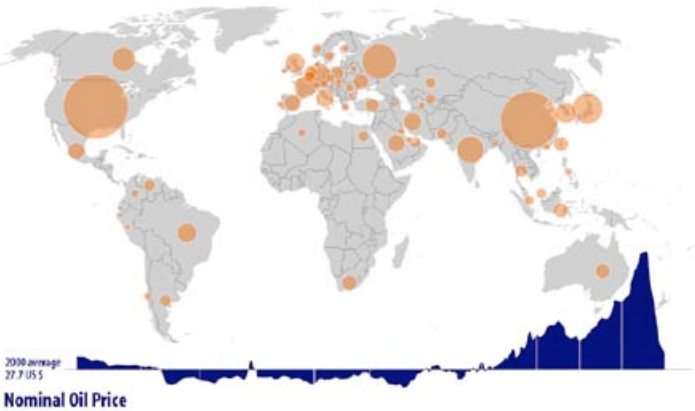
Food Crisis

Shares of food, beverages, fuel in household expenditure 2007
Percent of total expenditure



Oil, Energy and Climate Crises

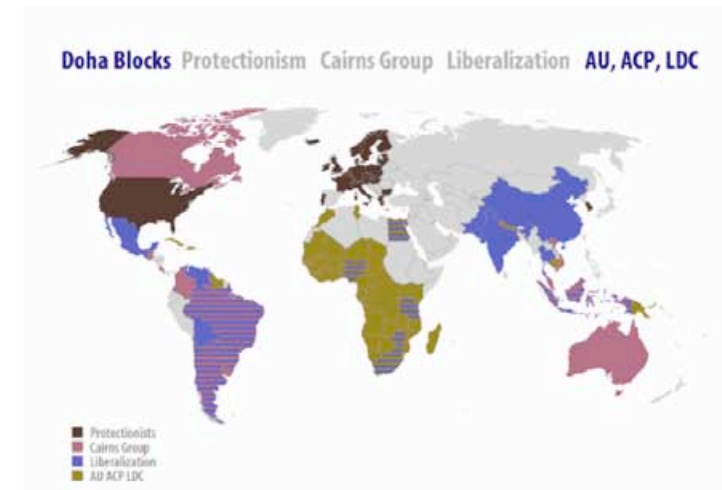
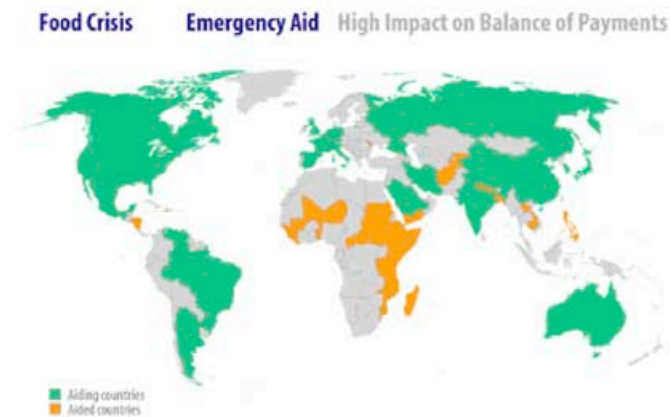
Primary Energy Consumption '94 '97 '00 '03 '06 '07 '08
Million tonnes oil equivalent



Governance of Interdependence and Interconnectedness

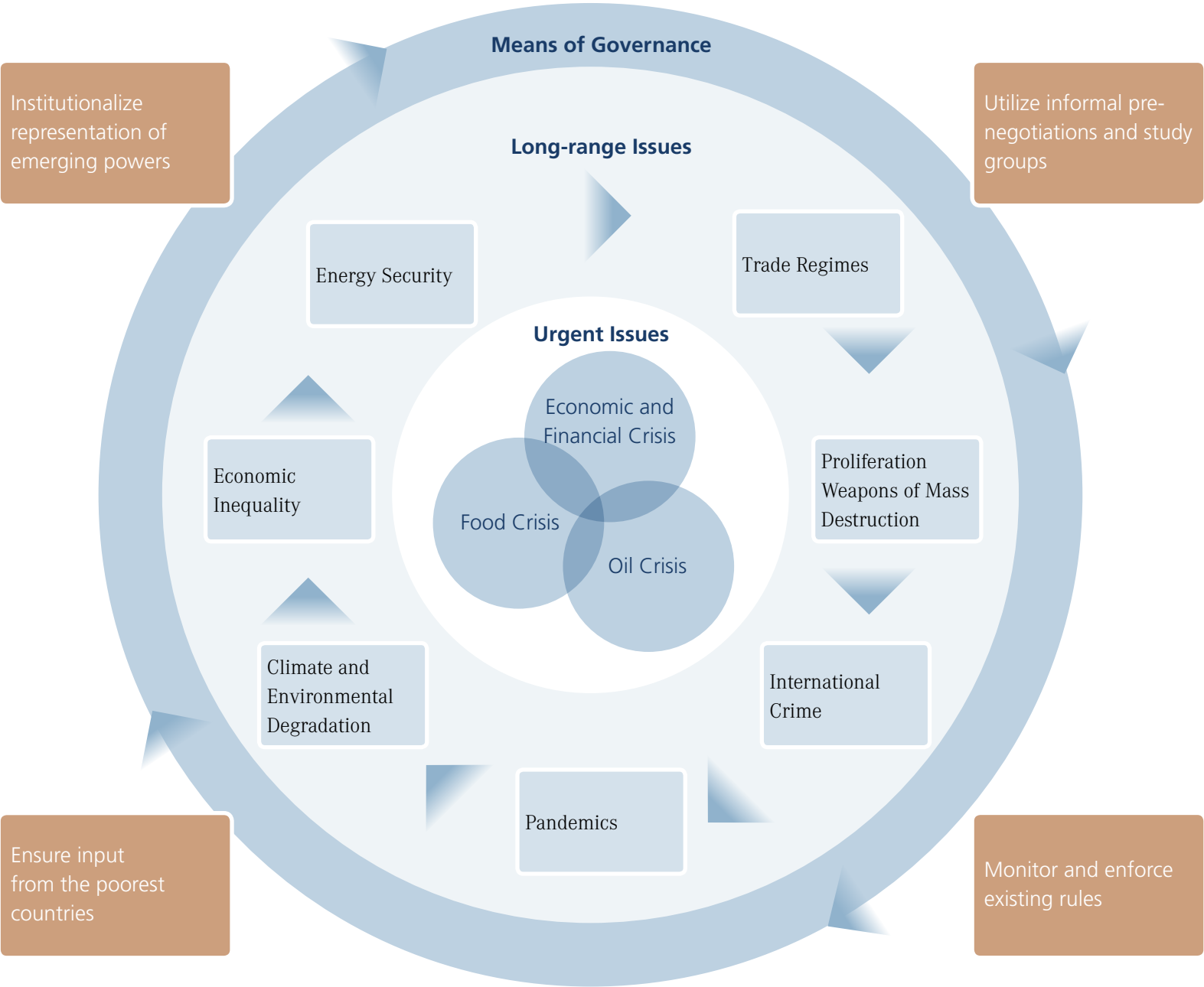
The way in which the crises of 2007-2009 unfolded made clear that only those governance approaches that adequately consider interconnectedness and interdependence – geographically and thematically – can produce needed solutions. Geographically, the financial crisis that hit Wall Street spread to London, Frankfurt, Moscow, Mumbai, Shanghai, Tokyo and Sydney, and led to serious economic slowdowns in developing economies that had little to do with the cause of the crisis. Likewise, changing nutritional patterns in the rising middle classes of emerging nations affect commodity prices and food security around the world. Thematically, a sustainable solution to climate change must inevitably address energy security issues, and economic stimulus packages offer a unique opportunity to invest in green energy for the future.

Ad-Hoc Emergency Cooperation ↔ Structural Fragmentation



Emerging Agenda: GPC 2009

Reform the means of governance to address mutually reinforcing long-range and urgent global issues holistically



Means of Governance: Building New Inclusive Partnerships

GPC participants in 2009 stressed the urgency of utilizing the current window of opportunity presented by the global crisis to act to improve global governance. Necessary reform includes further strengthening and democratizing comprehensively the existing institutions and tackling global agendas.

To adequately meet long-term and urgent challenges holistically, governance structures must institutionalize the representation and decision-making power of emerging countries in international bodies, in particular in the G20, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations Security Council. Moreover, these more representative forums must ensure effective input channels from developing countries, including the least developed countries.

While more representative governance forums can position jointly agreed upon rules and solutions to global problems, several GPC participants concluded that international study groups are indispensable for analyzing challenges and making recommendations to these bodies.

Finally, because rules and regulations already exist for many issues on the global agenda, the international community should improve its capacity to monitor and enforce compliance.

"The global community is going to look very much like the nation-state five centuries ago when the power was moving from the feudal lords to nation states."

Ricardo Lagos



Long-Range and Urgent Issues: Climate Change

- Agreement on clear targets → How much change is too much?
- Agreement on measurement → Per capita or per nation?
- Intrusive monitoring
- Transfers from North to South for technological adaptation
- Inclusion of those most affected by climate change in regime-building process
- Mindfulness of the development gap between North and South
- Utilization of financial stimulus to “green” the economy

Robert G. Skinner,
StatoilHydro Canada Ltd.



Pan Jiahua,
Chinese Academy of
Social Sciences Beijing



Nick Mabey,
Third Generation
Environmentalists (E3G)



Long-Range and Urgent Issues: International Financial Regimes

- More integrated international financial supervision
- Better enforcement of already-existing rules
- Demand expansion rather than protectionism as a response to financial crisis
- International guidelines for foreign investment and state aid
- Fundamental reform of the International Monetary Fund: more representative voting rights, a new role as the global financial regulator, and possibly a non-Western location
- Immediate and deep-seated rather than light-touch, incremental reform

Zhao Huaipu,
China Foreign Affairs
University



Ngaire Woods,
Oxford University



Adam S. Posen,
Peterson Institute



Long-Range and Urgent Issues: Poverty Reduction and Economic Equality

- Integrated approach to financial reform and poverty reduction goals
- Representation from the poorest countries in emerging modes of governance
- Attracting new champions for the WTO Doha Development Round by revising its agenda
- Delivery of aid commitments from developed countries despite economic crisis



“It is very important that the governments of the emerging economies are putting poverty alleviation at the center of their preoccupation and that their development agendas have a very broad and comprehensive program for reducing poverty.”

Jacques Toureille, Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance

Long-Range and Urgent Issues: Poverty Reduction and Economic Equality

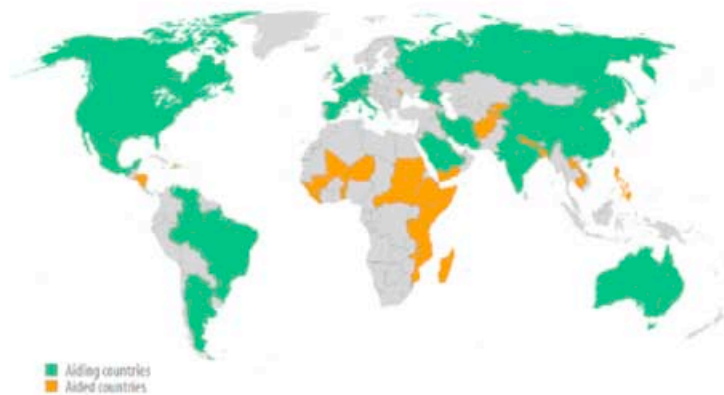
- Integrated approach to financial reform and poverty reduction goals
- Representation from the poorest countries in emerging modes of governance
- Attracting new champions for the WTO Doha Development Round by revising its agenda
- Delivery of aid commitments from developed countries despite economic crisis

"The persisting level of inequality in the world prevents a country like Ghana from taking advantage of globalization."

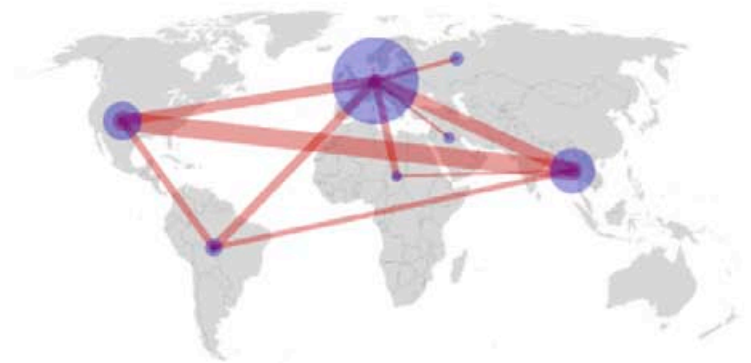
Victor Brobbey,
Ghana Center for Democratic Development



Food Crisis Emergency Aid High Impact on Balance of Payments



Agrotrade Flows
US \$ bn.



Global Voices Interviews

In addition to utilizing the formal meetings of the GPC to exchange ideas and impulses, several participants offered their perceptions of the globalized world and the prospects for global governance world through video interviews. These interviews are available at <http://www.youtube.com/BertelsmannStiftung>.

“Europeans are a major stumbling block to UN reform. Why Europe should have two permanent seats at the UN Security Council is a very good question.”

Joschka Fischer,
former Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany



Interview Questions

- In response to the current crises and challenges ahead, what global governance structures do we need?
- Who can lead us there?
- How can we ensure inclusiveness of global governance structures?
- What would you consider to be the one major issue your country will have to tackle during the next decade?
- How should these challenges be tackled?
- Is international cooperation necessary and possible within that context?
- What makes the globalized world a reality in your life?
- What changes do you hope to see during your lifetime?

“International cooperation is necessary for the protection of the Amazon because Brazil alone cannot cope with the necessary investments and control deforestation in the region.”

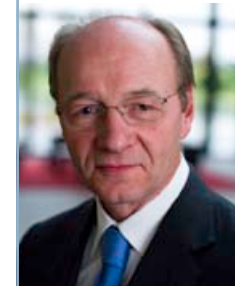
Denise Gregory, Executive Director of the Centro Brasileiro de Relações Internacionais (CEBRI) named preservation of the Amazon and control of the new oil discoveries in Brazil as the country's most important challenges in the next decade.



The “Shaping a Globalized World” Project

The forces of globalization are driving change worldwide. Economic globalization, modern communication technology and growing mobility are creating an increasingly interconnected world. This world is characterized by growing interdependence and new forms of cooperation that transcend national and cultural borders. At the same time, challenges in areas such as climate change, terrorism, energy insecurity and social inequalities - as well as global financial turmoil - undermine stability, peace and global development. This shows that the current system of global governance is insufficiently prepared to deal with such challenges.

Against this background, the “Shaping a Globalized World” project seeks to develop ideas and suggestions on how globalization can be managed politically, and to incorporate those ideas and suggestions into an international debate. The project is meant to be a pathfinder and an advisor to policymakers and the public. Its purpose is to spur participants to think more deeply about the political agenda of a globalized world, about strategies for action and modes of governance.



Josef Janning

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The “Shaping a Globalized World” Project

“Shaping a Globalized World” project attempts to examine global-governance issues inclusively and equitably. The project aims to do this by gathering minds, experiences and viewpoints from people, governments and non-state actors from various centers of the globalized world. Participants reflect the diversity of societal actors; they will consult, be consulted and cooperate on the project. They will develop options for political action on global-governance issues and make them available to the general public. By generating ideas and outlining opportunities for political actors and the public, the project hopes to contribute to the discussion on creating a fairer and more just globalized world.

The project, launched in fall 2008, combines the Bertelsmann Stiftung’s in-house expertise and wide-ranging program experience with appropriate resources, initiatives and programs of other internationally active institutions, think tanks and foundations. The project is coordinated by an international project team based in Gütersloh (Germany), Brussels (Belgium) and Washington, D.C. (USA). For more information, see www.shaping-a-globalized-world.org.



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About the Bertelsmann Stiftung



The Bertelsmann Stiftung, founded by Reinhard Mohn in 1977, is a nonprofit organization that functions exclusively as a private operating foundation. Its goal is to promote social change. The foundation focuses on people and strives to expand their opportunities. This is the vision of the founder, and it remains the basic principle underlying our work. The foundation is independent and politically nonpartisan. The foundation sees itself as an integral part of society. It is committed to the values of freedom, solidarity and humanity and beliefs in competition.

Impressum

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