

# Economics of Globalization - List of topics for presentations

The documents provided below are *supporting materials* meant to give you a starting point for your presentations. They are neither exhaustive nor sufficient. You are expected to conduct your own research.

There is no single “correct” answer, as long as your argument is grounded in sound economic reasoning.

Be especially **clear and pedagogical**. These are complex issues; your goal is to explain them in a way that is accessible and insightful for your audience. Make sure to highlight what is at stake and why it matters.

Referring to **economic theories and concepts** is strongly encouraged. Use **graphs, charts, and other visual evidence** to illustrate your points effectively.

Your presentation should, at a minimum, answer the following questions:

- What is the issue? Why does it matter?
  - How does it relate to the themes of this course?
  - For policy issues: What are the main policy alternatives? What are their pros and cons? Be explicit about the mechanisms and trade-offs involved.
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- **Why and how to reform the institutions of globalization? (23/09)**
    - New rules for a new world: a survival kit, George Papaconstantinou and Jean Pisani-Ferry, STG Policy Papers, 2021, <https://cadmus.eui.eu/server/api/core/bitstreams/11f7956f-a9a9-5d36-ad52-34d151c43034/content>
    - CESifo : The Urgent Need of Reforming the WTO: Why and How?
    - Peterson Institute for International Economics: Can the WTO be saved? Should it?
    - Peterson Institute for International Economics: How to save the WTO with more flexible trading rules
    - Trade Talks: The WTO is in trouble. Econ 101 to the rescue? (<https://tradetalkspodcast.com/podcast/180-the-wto-is-in-trouble-econ-101-to-the-rescue/>)
    - Sébastien Jean, Phillipe Martin, André Sapir : International Trade Under Attack: What Strategy for Europe? (<https://www.cae-eco.fr/staticfiles/pdf/cae-note046-en.pdf>)
    - EconoFacts: Can the IMF and World Bank Rise to Meet New Challenges? (<https://econofact.org/can-the-imf-and-world-bank-rise-to-meet-new-challenges>)

- **Should we sign new trade agreements? The case of EU-Mercosur (30/09)**
  - Peterson Institute for International Economics: Have Trade Agreements Been Bad for America
  - Rodrik: What Do Trade Agreements Really Do?
  - The Economist: Trade creates losers. Here's how to help them. (<https://www.economist.com/open-future/2018/05/28/trade-creates-losers-heres-how-to-help-them>)
  - Bruegel (Michael Baltensperger and Uri Dadush): The European Union-Mercosur Free Trade Agreement: prospects and risks ([https://www.bruegel.org/system/files/wp\\_attachments/PC-11\\_2019.pdf](https://www.bruegel.org/system/files/wp_attachments/PC-11_2019.pdf))
  - Greenpeace: EU-Mercosur fuels nature destruction and undermines EU efforts against deforestation (<https://www.greenpeace.org/static/planet4-eu-unit-stateless/2023/07/191bce9e-policy-briefing-eu-mercotur-undermines-eu-efforts-against-deforestation.pdf>)
  
- **The return of Industrial Policies. Why and how to deal with them? (07/10)**
  - Bruegel policy report: How Europe Should Answer the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act?
  - Cepii Policy Brief: Inflation Reduction Act. Comment l'Union Européenne peut-elle répondre ?
  - European Parliament: EU's response to the US Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
  - Congressional Research Service: Industrial Policy and International Trade (<https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF12119>).
  - Econofacts: Steel Tariffs and U.S. Jobs Revisited (<https://econofact.org/steel-tariffs-and-u-s-jobs-revisited>)
  - Trade Talk: Industrial policy and the rise of Romania's Silicon Valley (<https://tradetalkspodcast.com/podcast/187-industrial-policy-and-the-rise-of-romania-s-silicon-valley/>)
  
- **Should we keep going with Investor-State Dispute Settlements (ISDS) (14/10)**
  - European Parliament: Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS): State of play and prospects for reform
  - UNCTAD: International Investment Agreements and Climate Action
  - Peterson Institute for International Economics: What Do the Data Say about the Relationship between Investor-State Dispute Settlement Provisions and FDI? (<https://www.piie.com/blogs/trade-and-investment-policy-watch/what-do-data-say-about-relationship-between-investor-state>)
  - Peterson Institute for International Economics: ISDS Controversy (<https://www.piie.com/blogs/trade-and-investment-policy-watch/isds-controversy>)

- **How should we make multinational firms accountable? (14/10)**
  - IGC: Improving labour standards: Enforcement interventions by multinationals in Bangladesh (<https://www.theigc.org/blogs/improving-labour-standards-enforcement-interventions-multinationals-bangladesh>)
  - European Parliament: Due diligence: MEPs adopt rules for firms on human rights and environment (<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20240419IPR20585/due-diligence-meps-adopt-rules-for-firms-on-human-rights-and-environment>)
  - O'Rourke: The science of sustainable supply chains (<https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1248526>)
  - Alfaro-Ureña, L, B Faber, C Gaubert, I Manelici and J P Vasquez: Responsible sourcing? Theory and evidence from Costa Rica (<https://voxdev.org/topic/firms/responsible-sourcing-theory-and-evidence-costa-rica>)
  
- **The green transition in globalization rules: creating a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism or a Climate Club? (04/11)**
  - Peterson Institute for International Economics: EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism faces many challenges
  - Conseil d'Analyse Économique: Un mécanisme d'ajustement carbone aux frontières : quelles voies possibles ?
  - Trade Talks : Tackling climate change with a carbon border adjustment mechanism (<https://tradetalkspodcast.com/podcast/156-tackling-climate-change-with-a-carbon-border-adjustment-mechanism/>)
  - Nordhaus: The Climate Club: How to Fix a Failing Global Effort (<https://williamnordhaus.com/files/williamdnordhaus/files/p161-2020-nordhaus-clubs-foreignaffairs-2020.pdf>)
  - Climate Advisers: Climate Clubs, Key design and WTO Compliance (<https://www.climateadvisers.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Climate-Clubs-Key-Design-and-WTO-Compliance-Issues.pdf>)
  - EconoFacts (Farid Farrokhi and Ahmad Lashkaripour) : Can Trade Policy Help Combat Climate Change? (<https://econofact.org/can-trade-policy-help-combat-climate-change>)
  
- **How to deal with the losers of globalization? (18/11)**
  - Peterson Institute for International Economics: Have Trade Agreements Been Bad for America
  - Bruegel: The European Globalization Adjustment Fund: Easing the pain from trade?
  - Rodrik: What Do Trade Agreements Really Do?
  - Rodrik: Too Late to Compensate Free Trade's Losers
  - European Policy Brief: Compensating the Losers of Globalisation
  - Econofacts Podcast: Trade and Jobs: Who Loses, Who Adapts and Who Pays? (<https://econofact.org/podcast/trade-and-jobs-who-loses-who-adapts-and-who-pays>)

- The Economist: Trade creates losers. Here's how to help them. (<https://www.economist.com/open-future/2018/05/28/trade-creates-losers-heres-how-to-help-them>)
- European Parliament: Globalisation's impact on employment and the EU (<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/en/article/20190712STO56968/globalisation-s-impact-on-employment-and-the-eu>)
- **Should we tax the rich and/or provide them tax incentives? (21/10)**
  - Zucman: A blueprint for a coordinated minimum effective taxation standard for ultra-high-net-worth individuals (<https://gabriel-zucman.eu/files/report-g20.pdf>) [In particular sections 1, 2 , 3]
  - Eloi Flamant, Sarah Godar, Gaspard Richard : New Forms of Tax Competition in the European Union: an Empirical Investigation (<https://shs.hal.science/halshs-03461688/document>) [In particular sections 1, 2, 3, 5]
- **Why and how to manage strategic dependencies? (25/11)**
  - Conseil d'Analyse Économique Report: A Data-Driven Resilience Strategy in a Globalized World
  - Can the U.S. Reduce Its Reliance on Imported Rare Earth Elements? EconoFacts (<https://econofact.org/can-the-u-s-reduce-its-reliance-on-imported-rare-earth-elements>)
  - Cepii Policy Brief : EU Strategic Dependencies: A Long View
  - François CHIMITS, Conor MCCAFFREY, Juan MEJINO LOPEZ, Niclas Frederic POITIERS, Vincent VICARD and Pauline WIBAUX: European Economic Security: Current practices and further development
  - Trade Talk: National security, semiconductors, and the US move to cut off China
  - Trade Talk: Europe's Trade Policy and Open Strategic Autonomy (<https://tradetalkspodcast.com/podcast/157-europes-trade-policy-and-open-strategic-autonomy/>)
- **Do trade sanctions work? Rationale and consequences of trade sanctions. (25/11)**
  - How effective are economic sanctions, Céline Antonin, Blog de l'OFCE, <https://www.ofce.sciences-po.fr/blog/how-effective-are-economic-sanctions/>
  - Working Around Sanctions. What Cost to Russia?, Cepii Policy Brief, 2025, [https://www.cepii.fr/PDF\\_PUB/pb/2025/pb2025-50.pdf](https://www.cepii.fr/PDF_PUB/pb/2025/pb2025-50.pdf)
  - The Rise of Economic Sanctions in U.S. Foreign Policy, EconoFacts, <https://econofact.org/the-rise-of-economic-sanctions-in-u-s-foreign-policy>