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● Book Review

On-Kwok Lai

On-Kwok Lai
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<tr>
<td>Mark N. Bell</td>
<td>The Reformation: One Source of Modern Internationalism</td>
<td>Considering the source of movements, whether religious or philosophical, is an immense aid in helping students understand the world in which they live. Internationalism, though it has evolved into a complex system, can be reduced to a few foundational things: Free Market Capitalism, the Empirical Method, and Representative Democracy. The Reformation, while it did not actually invent these things, nevertheless caused them to flourish and brought them to maturity. It is, therefore, one of the pivotal movements that led to the modern world. Because it was a religious movement, however, we tend to shy away from it and not give it the attention it deserves. In this article I will outline a few key points with regards to the value system it put into place and speculate a bit on where it may be taking us.</td>
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<td>Joseph DeChicchis</td>
<td>Choice-driven language shift: Three models of change</td>
<td>This paper presents results of a cross-cultural comparison of language maintenance in three indigenous language communities. The comparison evolved from earlier linguistic and ethnolinguistic work in each of these communities, and it has revealed important facts which are not consonant with common population-based models of language shift. After describing the most striking and incontrovertible facts, the paper concludes by suggesting a more accurate model of language change.</td>
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<td>Yasuhiro Furukawa</td>
<td>Success Factors of Telework in Japan</td>
<td>In This Study, I survey the present conditions of broadband network and telework, and explain the efficiency of telework in Japan. I present from a standpoint of the Knowledge Management, SECI Model, I consider how do we use telework to work effectively. And, I explain resistance of workers when we will introduce new work conditions like telework, and National Cultural Differences between Japan and USA. So, I search for problems and solutions of telework when we will introduce it. Then, I want to make clear success factors of telework.</td>
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<td>Hans W. Gottinger</td>
<td>Technological Races in Global Industries: Theory and Measurement of Hypercompetition</td>
<td>The starting point of our consideration on technological racing are stochastic models that view corporations as moving objects to approach a stochastic destination. A major focus is the strategic orientation of corporations in participating in such a race, revealing empirically observable phenomena such as ‘catchup’ and ‘leapfrogging’, as supported by statistical measurements. Next to the analysis of behavioral patterns on the corporate or industry level is their aggregation on a national scale that extends to racing on economic growth among (groups of) countries. Based on the proposed stochastic model a statistical profiling of technological evolution and innovation is analyzed as it relates to competitive racing and rivalry among leading firms. Among the performance criteria to be assessed are frequency of frontier pushing, technological domination period, innovations vs. imitations in the race, innovation frequency when behind or ahead, nature of jumps, leapfrogging or frontier-sticking, inter-jump times and jump sizes, race closeness measures, and interfrontier distance. A major conjecture of the paper is that technological racing patterns on a micro scale reinforce globalization and limit control of national and industry policy.</td>
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Title: United Nations Global Compact

Abstract: The “Global Compact” is a recent initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General aimed at forging partnerships with the private sector to jointly cope with global problems.

By way of introduction, the article provides an overview of the history and scope of cooperation between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations on matters within its competence, as stipulated in its Charter. It points out that this mandate to develop partnerships with civil society in general and non-governmental organizations in particular, including the business community as part of the private sector, was renewed by the Millennium Declaration of the United Nations in the year 2000 which stresses that the private sector, through the industrial and commercial activities of international corporations, can act as an important supporting partner in pursuit of United Nations goals, and can play a crucial role in promoting socially and environmentally responsible development and poverty eradication, – in addition to generating employment and wealth. The article describes the progression of regulations by the United Nations in pursuit of its cooperative interaction with the private sector. Establishing policy rules, guidelines, criteria and the operational framework, the United Nations aims at striking the right balance between safeguarding its integrity and independence and preserving the degree of flexibility for successfully carrying out such cooperation towards advancing its goals.

The main body of the article deals with the recent innovative approach to such cooperation and partnership, namely the promulgation of a “Global Compact” between the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The article refers to the stated concerns of the United Nations Secretary General regarding the threat to the stability of open global markets and worldwide economic, social and political development, generated by the opposition to globalization claiming that adverse effects of globalization are the deliberate result of the operations of international business.

The article explains the premise of the “Global Compact” which seeks to reconcile the impact of globalization with the interests and concerns of a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including companies and investors, employees and workers, consumers, advocacy groups and communities. These groups are urged to cooperate on a voluntary and constructive basis within a common framework in order to build a more inclusive global market by advancing broadly shared core values and practices that reflect global social needs. Guided by this aim, the “Global Compact” strives to enhance good corporate practices and social responsibility based on a set of nine universally agreed principles in the areas of human rights, labor standards and environment protection. The article outlines these nine principles to be observed by the participating companies; and it describes the prerequisites for participation in the “Global Compact”, as well as the operational structure of the “Global Compact” designed as a forum for learning and dialogue, and as a data base for dissemination of information derived from case studies developed from company projects. The article concludes by mentioning some objections raised against the “Global Compact” regarding companies’ abuse of “blue-washing” their reputation through their affiliation with the United Nations, and concerns with respect to the effectiveness of the “Global Compact” as a voluntary and non-enforceable instrument lacking the authority to monitor and control compliance by the participating companies.
### Book Review

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