Educational Administration: Theory and Practice
2024, 30(6), 3744-3755
ISSN: 2148-2403
https://kuey.net/

Research Article

The Benefits and Challenges of the Incorporation of Traditional African Political-Economy into the Western Capitalist Economic System

Francis Ayegbunam IKENGA[1*], Vincent Eseoghene EFEBEH[2], Abraham Obukohwo EGBADJU[3], OLUKA, N. Lucas[4]

[1 2 3] Department of Political Science, Delta State University, Abraka, Nigeria
[4]Department of Political ScienceNovena University, Ogume, Delta State, Nigeria

Citation: Francis Ayegbunam IKENGA, et al (2024), The Benefits and Challenges of the Incorporation of Traditional African Political-Economy into the Western Capitalist Economic System *Educational Administration: Theory and Practice*, *30*(6), 3744-3755
Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v30i6.6274

ARTICLE INFO **ABSTRACT**

This manifestation promoted economic dichotomy as well as mutual benefits between the states of the developed West and states of Africa. Underdevelopment which is now a common place in Africa can also traced to export of western capitalism into the continent. It is in context of this development that this study examined the benefits and challenges of the incorporation of traditional African economy into the capitalist-economy system. Historical method of data collection was adopted to elicit data and information mainly from secondary sources, such as books, journal, dailies, periodicals, internet materials, among others. The study adopted the theories of development and underdevelopment (modernisation and dependency theories) to analyse the reasons for the stratification in the global political-economic system which positioned Africa at the negatives and receiving end of European exploits. The study finds out among others, that the intensification of westernization of global economic diplomacy and integration of Africa economy into the western capitalist economic system positioned Africa into a polygamous and reciprocal relationship with the European powers. Also, the involvement of the new entrants, the United States of America (USA) and China in exploring Africa resources constitute a problem on the continent. The study considered the seemingly unending inequalities in trade relations between the Western capitalist states and the developing countries of the Third World, especially Africa, as the reason for the underdevelopment in the states of Africa. The study suggests that the states in Africa should strengthen the already existing regional and sub-regional economic integrations in order to reposition their economies. There is also the need to renegotiate the place of African countries in the existing multilateral Organizations and institutions in which they are members, such as the World Trade Organisation (W.T.O), United Nations (UN), and World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to fast track African development.

Keywords: Africa, Europe, Westernization, Incorporation, Integration, Capitalism, Benefits, Challenges, Underdevelopment, Modernization

Introduction

Scholars and political scientists believe that the present international system began in the 17th century with the signing of the Westphalia Peace Treaty in 1648 which was a conference that acknowledged the sovereignties of the nation-states of Europe by the European powers, particularly those that developed from the Feudal empires and Christian commonwealth to the emergence of powerful states like Great Britain, Portugal, Spain and Russia (Palmer & Perkins, 2019:6). During this period, Britain dominated world trade because her economy was the most technologically advanced and products from Great Britain were competitive worldwide. By the outset of 20th century, the world largest and advanced economy was no longer Britain but the United States which was fuelled by its industrialisation and territorial expansion throughout the 19th century (Goldstein & Pevehouse, 2011).

Although, several circumstances made the international system to have undergone evolutionary periods, all of which have different characteristics. Of all the phases, the period between the Peace of Westphalia in 1648 to the end of the Second World War (WW II) in 1945 and the Cold War Era (CWE) in 1991, after the disintegration of the Soviet Union, created remarkable impression in the history of the world and the evolution of the current international system (Madhusha, 2015). Since the 20th century, there have been significant growths in global politics and economic interdependence of states. Most of these relations were negotiated under bilateral or multilateral agreements. Evidently, African countries are not left out in most of these arrangements. The major actors in the global political-economy (GPE), also refers to as international political-economy (IPE) have always been with individual regime leaders, nation-states, Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs) and Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as the United Nations (UN), the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the multinational corporations (MNCs). The ability to control these global institutions lies in the shoulders of the industrialised nations of Europe, USA, and a little from the BRICS nations (the emerging economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) (Goldstein, 1999).

The Western capitalist system has always been designed to favour the West. The seemingly increasing dichotomy that now exist between the states of the developed countries of Western Europe and USA, and underdeveloped countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, has attracted several debates among scholars, political commentators and analysts all over the world, though much thought has not be given to the contemporary position of Africa in the evolving dynamics of international relations, especially in the western dominated capitalise system. In its current form, westernisation and globalisation have exacerbated economic and political inequalities and power imbalances between the developed North and underdeveloped South of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Since the capitalist system presented a power structure with the developed countries (DCs) or imperial powers at the apex and the Third World Countries (TWCs) or Less Developed Countries (LDC) at the base, what is required is a balance, though, not actually realistic considering the diverse levels of disparities in the global economic structure imposed on the LDCs by the industrialised nations of Western Europe through colonialism, and now, through their hegemonic and imperial structures under the Britton Woods Institutions, and with the help of the Multinational companies in the South (Goldstein, 1999, 2003; Alkali, 2003; Arowolo, 2008).

The above explanations exemplified the negative impact of westernisation and the incorporation (or integration) of the traditional Africa economies into the global capitalist economy, which has resulted to development in the metropolis or centre of the centre, and dependency and underdevelopment in the peripheral states of the TWCs. Evidently, Africa is not left out in the dependency and underdevelopment sage ushered in by the incorporation of the global economies (Ita, 2022:72). As Monday (2021:63) puts it, "the early European adventurism in Africa resulted in imposition of economic structure and a system of global governance that eventually promoted the rise of global capitalist system and incorporation of Africa into it, and consequently, the distortion of sustainable economic growth, and late development in most of the states of Africa". Arowolo (2010) argued that, "mercantilism, slave trade, colonialism and the activities of the Christian missionaries in Africa are the platforms upon which western culture and civilisation move stealthily into the traditional African socio-cultural and economic front". He revealed that the consequence of the quest for imperial pilfering (or robbery) of African resources found its root with the Berlin Conference of 1884/1885. This act was consolidated by the integration of Africa into global political-economic system dominated by the European powers, aided by the unstoppable wave of globalisation (Arowolo, 2010).

Kasongo (2010) affirmed that westernisation that was imported into Africa was a hidden model of European modernism which was intended to achieve selfish desires, a step to stealthily control the traditional African economy. Engel and Olsen (2017) affirmed that colonialism which lasted for several years abets Africa's integration into the global economic system which connected African territories to European capitalist economy as suppliers of raw materials and consumers of finished commodities often purchased at exorbitant rates. However, the current capitalist economic system is defined by a rising competition and confrontation among the industrialised powers with Africa at the receiving end (Niall, Bas, Marek & Ekaterina, 2022).

In addition, the export of Western capitalism has consistently contaminated Africa's traditional values that were established before European incursion. The existence of polarity system in which European powers now exert their economic powers in intoxicating manners made states relations complex. Before the emergence of these super and semi-super powers in the contemporary world system, Great Britain was the major world power and balancer exerting unipolar power in the international system, particularly in the Eighteenth (18th) century and in the early Nineteenth (19th) century global political system. In 1945, just after the Second World War (WW2) which started on 1 September 1939 and ended on 8 May 1945, as soon as Germany surrendered, there was a shift from unipolarity system dominated by Great Britain to a bipolarity system controlled by United States of America (USA) and the defunct Soviet Union. But today, it could be said that the world is under a multi-polarity structure with USA as an ordinate power (The National WW II Museum, 2020).

The incorporation of Africa into western capitalist system is also complicated by the forces of globalisation which include technical revolution and economic liberalisation, and the propagation of democracy into the new states of Africa. The forces of globalisation transverse into improve transportation system, and communication and technical development, as well as transfer of ideas, information and culture. Since the end of the Second World War (WW2) in 1945 and Cold War in 1991, the realpolitik and realeconomik in the global system exchanged hands in favour of the United States' (U.S) unipolar system with its currency (dollars) as the sole legal tender accepted at the international market up to the present time. Indeed, the holistic distortion of African traditional economy is pointed to European colonisation and inclusion of Africa into the international economic system (Arowolo, 2010).

According to Shaw (1997) and Ibrahim and Ainuddin (2017), in the post-Cold War Era (p-CWE) (i.e. the time of the demise of communism and disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991), global power shifted to the United States, and since then to the present days, the world started to experience a new phase in the global economic relations, consequently, there is a heightened global division in trade and commerce, with the LDCs or TWCs at the receiving end. This development has further exposed the LDCs to massive exploitation of their natural resources by the industrialised West and the new entrants, USA and China. It also manifests in the division that now exist between the developed economies of the West (or the North) and the developing economies of the South (or LDCs). This study thus restates the popular view that the present global political and economic arena is dominated by the imperial powers from Western Europe and North America, and consequently exacerbates underdevelopment in the peripheral states, including Africa. The survival of any of the nation-states of Africa among the comity of nations, depends on the level of political and economic powers they possess and the extent to which they can exerts these powers to maintain relevance and promote their national interests, although, in a regularised manners.

Statement of the Problem

Since the 18th and early 19th centuries, the comity of nations has been working assiduously and consistently to enhance global political and economic cooperation through trade regimes under regional, sub regional and transnational organisations such as the European Union (EU), African Union (AU), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the General Agreement for Tariff and Trade (GATT) now the World Trade Organisation (W.T.O), and significant others (Audu, Ologbenla, Anifowose & Abdul-Rahoof, 2013). However, the severity of problems promoted by westernisation and integration of the traditional Africa economy into the global economy are inherently affecting contemporary Africa economy, making it more vulnerable and fragile.

As Aryeetey, Court, Nissanke and Weder (2003) noted, "the opening up of the traditional economies of the nations of Africa by the European powers becomes detrimental as well as beneficial to the states of Africa because the nature and form of integration, and dynamism and growth within the global economy is not guaranteed" (Aryeetey et al., 2003). The domineering interests of the European super power states in the international system and the lop-sidedness in the rules of the game did not favour the states of Africa. There is however the problem of achieving sustainable development in Africa's socio-economic front, as well as the problem of integrating the peripheral economics of African countries into the global capitalist system on equal level. As such, many African countries are on the edge of economic disaster (Osaro, 2022:48-49).

Kasongo (2010) as cited in Farah, Kiamba and Mazongo (2011:2) affirmed that the westernisation that was imported into Africa was a hidden side of modernism and a materialistic interest on the side of the European powers. He conceived European civilisation as another concept of domination and imposition after colonial rule. Similarly, Arowolo (2010) described export of western civilisation as one of the effects of European colonisation used to submerge and dismantled indigenous institutions and culture in Africa. Oluka, Ativie and Ugboma-Uti (2019) confirmed this stand point of the predicament of Africa and its Third World counterparts in Asia and Latin America when they argued that, "the political economy of contemporary African countries is perpetually dependent on those of the industrialised capitalist economies of Western Europe, attributed to early European imperialist incursion into Africa". The devastating effects of this connection between the global north and Africa have been complicated by the activities of Multinational Corporations (MNCs) and creation of elite class and gluttonous bourgeoisies in Africa. The presence of the new entrants from the North America countries of USA and Canada and some Asia countries like Japan and China also constitutes a problem to Africa economies (Oluka et al., 2019; Efebeh et al, 2021).

Following this divide, two parallel theories of development and underdevelopment have also emerged (modernisation and dependency theories). The origin of the modernisation theory is traced to the 1950s and 1960s, as the demise of European colonialism produced new states in Africa, Latin America and Asia, and as Western social scientists began to study the reasons behind Third World economic dependency and political problems. This theory gained popularity in United States in the 1960s. Dependency theory on the other end, originated from Latin America as a radical response to the postulations of the modernisation theory (Audu, Ologbenla, Anifowose &Abdul-Rahoof, 2013:149). Despite the efforts of multilateral institutions and organisations, national governments in Africa and beyond, and the emergence of the theory of development and underdevelopment, inequalities in terms economic relations between the developed and underdeveloped economic blocs in the global system is yet to be resolved. Following this development, Several African countries were forced to yield to superior powers, while some succumbed because they lack technological know-how, political stability, economic efficiency and ability to retain their own ideas (Osaro, 2022, Nwokolobia and Ikenga, 2023, Agah and Ikenga, 2023).

In recent times, the obvious which has bedevilled economic diplomacy within the international system is the division of the international political-economic system into three sub-systems which includes: The Western System which is a structure that belongs to the developed market economies of Western Europe, North America and Japan, though in the past, and is characterised by developed capitalist economies, technology, economic wealth and military capacity. One significant factor that distinguishes the states in this system is that it is characterised by a high level of interdependence among the member states of the bloc. There is also the East/West System represented by trade relations between the centrally planned socialist market represented by Russia and the capitalist planned market and economy represented by USA, and which is characterised by clear independence and a little interdependence (Spero, 1980 cited in Sunday, 2018).

The third is the North-South System which a system that represents the relationship between the developed market economies of the Western world and the global South represented by the Third World economies of Africa, Asia and Latin America. It has been argued that this system is characterised by a high degree of exploitation and dependence (Ejumudo and Ikenga, 2015). This relationship is what scholars from the South who have studied the relationship between north and south call the "north-south dichotomy. The North-South relations is thus characterised by perpetual dependence on trade from the North by the South, there is dependence on financial investment from the global north because most of the investments in Africa in particular are owned by foreign investors from the global north who invests in lucrative sectors of the economies of African countries. There is also monetary dependence in which African countries are the highest borrowers (Spero, 1980 cited in Sunday, 2018). The last in this categorisation is the South-South system which stems from regional integration (regionalism in trade). It is characterised by regional trade agreements (RTAs) and preferential global integration to enhance South-South trade relations (Udeoji, 2015).

However, the inclusion of Africa into the capitalist system has obvious disadvantages that have remained unchanged and unaddressed, and appeared to have locked Africa permanently into producers of agricultural and mineral produce for the industrialised West at ridiculously low and uncompetitive prices (Ajayi, 2011).This development inarguably exemplified the negative impact of the incorporation of traditional Africa economies into the capitalist economy. Sequel to this development, most of the states in the African continent are left behind in terms of economic development. More so, the emergence of the new entrants in recent decades, especially China has brought about a new dimension in global competition with African countries at the receiving end. As there are numerous challenges, there are also advantages following the incorporation of Africa traditional economy into the world system. It is within this context that this study examined the benefits and challenges of the incorporation of traditional Africa political-economy into the world capitalist economic system.

Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to examine the effects of the inclusion of traditional Africa economies into the capitalist economic system, while the specific objectives of the study are to:

1. Examine the benefits of the incorporation of Africa traditional economies into the capitalist economic system,
2. Examine the challenges of the incorporation of Africa traditional economies into the capitalist economic system, and
3. Offer recommendations to these challenges in order to sustain the benefits provided by the present global economic system.

Research Questions

The following questions which are derived from the objectives of this study are raised to guide this study:

1. What are the benefits of the incorporation of Africa traditional economies into the capitalist economic system?
2. What are the challenges of the incorporation of Africa traditional economies into the capitalist economic system?
3. How can these challenges be ameliorated in order to sustain the benefits provided by the present global economic system?

Method of Study

The historical method of data collection was adopted in this study to obtain data and information mainly from secondary sources such as books, journals, internet materials, among others. The utilitarian value of this research method is that it enables researchers to interpret both past and current events in order to have a clear perspective of the present. This research method can accommodate wide-range phenomena, especially those related to current events and the study areas. It is used to state the conceptual structure within which a research work would be conducted. It also relied extensively on secondary sources of data collection from survey of textbooks, dailies, periodicals, journal articles, internet source, among others.

Conceptual clarification and Theoretical Framework

The Concept of Westernization

The term "Westernisation" simply means the process in which the world system was influenced into adoption of Western culture, industrialisation, technology, politics, economics, life style, laws, norms, customs, traditions, language, religion, mentality and philosophy. Westernisation is also refers to as "the period of the growing influence of western culture, ideology and philosophy across the world" (Thong, 2012). The term in recent times has be used interchangeably with the terms "Europeanization, modernisation and incorporation of TWCs into the capitalist system", although, in a way that is contestable. Overall, the process of westernisation has always been conceived in two dimensions, first, is its emergence of socio-political and economic influence and impacts on the rest of the world, especially in the TWCs of Africa, Asia and Latin America; and lastly, the changes its spread brought to the present status of the TWCs and the rest of the world including the nations of Western Europe who are the major actors and beneficiaries. Its phenomenon did not follow specific pattern or degree of influence across the world but its impact is felt almost at the same level across the world in recent times.

Generally, it was conceived that westernisation and integration of other traditional economies into global political-economy started with the period of mercantilism (or commercialism) which is associated with the period of European mercantile or commercial pursuit across the world, particularly by European powers such as Portugal, Great Britain, France, Spain, Belgium and Germany. It was argued that the major reasons for westernisation of the evolving international system was the emergence of scientific and technical innovations, first in Britain and later in other parts of Europe, as well as the growth in commercial and military technologies which had great effects in world politics, and by extension world economic affairs. This period laid the foundation of European control of North and South America, Asia and Africa; and was succeeded by colonial rule that subjected many of the TWCs, particularly those of Africa under total control of their resources by the European powers (Jaffe, 1988).

The subjugation of these parts of the world including African continent by the European powers created political and economic divide with the developed North on one side and the underdeveloped South or TWCs on the other side. In real terms, this division created the North-South economic dichotomy that is still very much visible in our contemporary international political-economic system. Following the end of World War II, the capitalist world economy was restructured by USA leadership and with the establishment of the World Bank and IMF, the U.S leadership became pronounced and the position of Africa in the U.S led international system worsened (Goldstein & Pevehouse, 2011). Moreover, the contemporary status of Africa and the rest of the TWCs are traced to this unequal global relation that has also created both positive and negative impacts on Africa in particular and on the other countries of the Third World in general (Ikenga and Agah, 2020).

The Concept of International Political-Economy:

International political economy (IPE) encompasses the nexus between politics and economics as goods, services, money, people, and ideas move across national borders. This term "political economy" began to attract attention of scholars in the Mid-1960s amidst world economic problems and underdevelopment in the Third World. Interestingly, the term "global political- economy (GPE)" is now frequently used to explain what happens in contemporary global political-economic relations between and among the states in the international system (Merlin-Bennett & Johnson, 2021). Oatley (2019) described international political-economy as the study of "political battle between the winners and losers of global economic exchange". It is also defined as "the relationship between economics and politics, at least in the modern world, is a reciprocal one" (Keohane, 2005). Because both mercantilists and Marxists conceived state relations as inherently conflictual, the current nature of the international political-economy is stratified and driven by greed, and states have the capability of cooperating among themselves to foster mutual economic relations (Robbert & Robert, 2005).

Gunter (2022) describes international political-economy as, "the study of the reciprocal relationship between politics and economics in the global system". From the perspective of economic foundations of global order, it proposes a fusion of economic and political analysis to form a holistic approach which examined the global system that complements and transcends the family of theories. For Will (2023), political economy is, "an interdisciplinary area of studies in the social sciences that concerns itself with the interrelationships of individuals, governments, and public policy". He also described it, "as the interaction between politics and economics". Furthermore, Will states that those who study political economy seek understanding of how history, culture and customs impact on economic system, and vice versa (Will, 2023). In a related manner, Balaam (2024) described the concept as, "a branch of social science that studies the relationships that exist between individuals and the society and between markets and the state, using a diverse set of tools and methods drawn largely from economics, political science, and sociology". From the definitions provided in the study, the term "international or global political- economy' is use to describe the study of the nexus between economics and politics as it concerns market system and international relations.

Theoretical Framework:

The theory adopted for this study is the theory of Development and Underdevelopment (i.e., modernisation and dependency theories). The origin of modernisation theory is traced to the 1950s and 1960s, as the demise of European colonialism produced new states in Africa, Latin America and Asia. This manifestation of Western interference coincided with the study of the reasons behind TWCs' current economic dependency and associates political problems by Western social scientists. Modernisation theory gained popularity in the United States in the 1960s. On the other hand, dependency theory which originated from Latin America as a radical response to the postulations of the modernisation theory gained popularity among southern scholars. It came to exert a lot of influence over political research on Latin America, Africa and the other parts of the developing world. Modernization and dependency theories are provided to explain the issues or challenges associated with the development and underdevelopment in the industrialised capitalist economies and underdeveloped or TWCs respectively (Audu, Ologbenla, Anifowose & Abdul-Rahoof, 2013; Monday, 2021).

Profiling the tenets of the theories of modernisation and dependency, Monday (2021) explained that, "while modernisation presents the story of transformation from backwardness, economic retardation and impoverishment to modernity, the dependency theory depicts a story of polarisation in which development of the industrialised nations were built upon and that which persuaded underdevelopment in African continent". Despite the disparities in conception of development and underdevelopment, both theories share common understanding concerning the central tenets of development and underdevelopment, namely: westernisation, modernity, industrialisation and urbanisation. Both also agreed that the nation-states are the formal institutions of government which plays central role in development and underdevelopment (Monday, 2021).

Major exponents of the modernisation theory are Gabriel Almond, Bingham Powell, David Coleman and Lucian Pye, while the exponents of dependency theory are Andre Gunder Frank, Walter Rodney, Frantz Fanon, Samir Amin, Claude Ake, among others. Walt W. Rostow, a notable modernisation theorist (1960), argued that underdevelopment in Africa was an internal orchestration because of the traditional character of African people on the one hand, and lack of self-oriented policies on the other hand. Furthermore, Rostow blamed underdevelopment of Africa to its failure to westernise or follow the same development path taken by the developed countries in the West. He suggested that African countries must go through the stages in which the West followed to development and break away from the shackles of backwardness (Rostow, 1970).

On the contrary, Theotonio Dos Santo (1970) argued that the underdevelopment in the TWCs was conditioned by the development and expansion of the economies of the imperialist nations. Similarly, Andre Gunder Frank (1969) argued that capitalism which was exported from Europe to other parts of the world brought the whole world under a single international economic system with monopolistic structure which was used to plunder and misuse the resources of the developing world. Andre Gunder Frank in his view asserts that the colonising states constitute the "centre" of development while the colonies constitute the "periphery". He argued that, "underdevelopment is not original nor the starting point of the periphery, rather it is a result of the stagnation of the development of the periphery nations by their contact with Western capitalist system and colonialism" (Okeke, Otubanjo & Pogoson, 2015:14). Rodney (1972) asserts that, "the enterprises established by the European powers in their colonies in the TWCs to expropriate natural resources to Europe, aggravated underdevelopment in TWCs, while it procreated development in Europe". Offiong (1980) confirmed this stand point when he argued that European colonialism and inclusion of traditional Africa economies into the western capitalist system ushered in development in Europe and aggravated underdevelopment in the periphery states of Africa.

Murray (1994) also confirmed this stand point when he argued that the capitalist penetration was the reason for the underdevelopment of Africa economy, and the reason it was subjected a dependent economy on those of developed capitalist nations of Western Europe and North America. Dode and Egugbo (2019) while profiling the tenets of the dependency theory view underdevelopment in Africa in the continent to the initial as well as recent contacts with Europe and North America in the form of slave trade, imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism respectively. These factors cannot be completely ignored as responsible for underdevelopment in Africa. In this 21st century, these factors are no longer tenable as factors responsible for the underdevelopment in Africa because the problem of underdevelopment in Africa is conceived to be more of internal than external (Dode and Egugbo (2019:85). The problem of underdevelopment in Africa is more of internal because of certain internal factors, such systemic corruption, including diversion of public funds into private accounts domicile in foreign banks, money laundry, and poor project cost and policy implementation by those occupying the positions of authority. There are also the problems of mediocrity rather than meritocracy, and tribalism which have impacted negatively in Africa development. There is also the problem of mismanagement of loans obtained from the Britton Woods institutions, World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

This notion fits the expression of Igwe in his book "*How Africa Underdeveloped Africa*" in 2012. Igwe was of the view that underdevelopment in Africa is charged by sheer unwillingness of the leadership to bring about good governance and living standards for the inhabitants of the continent (Igwe, 2012). This summarily means that underdevelopment in Africa in present times, is internally induced. Several factors such as systemic corruption, favouritism and mediocrity, nepotism and tribalism, poor recruitment processes for political office holders and civil servants, Godfatherism, and poor policy formulation and implementation, among other factors are identified as instruments used in perpetuating underdevelopment in Africa (Okereka, Oluka & Efeosa-Temple, 2020). As Hussein (2015) puts it, "with its failed and failing nation-states, institutional weaknesses and attendant ungoverned spaces, and persisting gaps between the 'haves' and 'have-nots', conflict in its different forms in African continent, has become highly endemic, which is now a growing source of concern for the international community (Hussein, 2015), despite the sovereignty enjoyed since independence from the European colonial authorities".

It implies that underdevelopment and other challenges in Africa are internal much as they are externally induced through imperialism and neo-colonialism. Although, the disadvantages of westernisation and incorporation of Africa economies into the capitalist economy seems to be more dominant in academic discourse in recent times, but the truth remains that there are some benefits, such as exposure of the economies of the states of the TWCs, including Africa to the international market economy, making their natural and agricultural resources to attract global demand from the industrialised economies which in return provide capital profitability to the developing nations of Africa. However, the fact that surplus capitals are repatriated to the West by the MNCs located in Africa is sufficient reason for Third World scholars to access the industrialised nations of Western Europe and North America of the present situations and predicaments in the TWCs. This notion fits the expression of modernisation theorists from the West. Notably also, the internally induced factors leading to underdevelopment which fits the notion of Igwe (2012) is sustained because the socio-economic backwardness and underdevelopment in most of the contemporary African states are cause by the dispositions of the political leaderships in the continent.

Benefits of the Incorporation of Africa Economies into the Capitalist Economic System:

Since the advent of the proliferation of the nation-states from the times of the Westphalia in 1648 in Europe to the emergence of new states of the Latin America and Africa, after the exit of European colonial masters in the late 1950 to early 1960s, there has been the manifestation of a world system theory that has one of the leading structural theory in interpreting the nature of the international political-economy. Its major concern has been the position of the TWCs in the current international political-economic order. Generally, the world system theory holds that the relationships among the component parts or sub-units of the global or world system has been characterised by exchange of goods and services by means of the world or global market system (Wil & Frits, 1996). It was however argued that this development was complicated by the intensified westernisation of the international political-economic system facilitated by the export of capitalism into the global south, and with the global south having or receiving its benefits as well as its challenges.

It was also argued that the intensified international economic diplomacy during this era on the one hand impede the development in some parts of the world and on the other hand, spur the development in some parts of the world. Again, this development created a group of dominant core states and wealthy blocs on the one hand, and a subservient and impoverished bloc on the other hand. While the dominant and wealthy core belongs to the North (the nations of Western Europe), the subservient and impoverished periphery nations belongs to the South who are the developing nations of Africa, Asia, Latin America, Middle East and the Caribbean. Consequently, there are decades of controversies on the causes of this aged-long unequal relationship between the northern and southern poles (or blocs) in the international system with so much emphases on colonial experiences, imperialism and neo-colonialism in Africa, without much emphases on the reciprocities or mutual benefits that have existed between the two blocs particularly in this globalised age (Wil & Frits, 1996).

While the integration of Africa into the Western economic system has been largely discredited by Southern scholars, perhaps in the perspective of Northern scholars, it is not so wrong because both blocs enjoy mutual benefits of this development. As Gonzalo (2013) rightly stated, "integration of the African political-economy into the global political-economy is a pre-condition for democratisation and its long-term visibility in African continent". Undeniably, since the advent of the westernisation of the IPE system and export of capitalism to the global South, capital from the global North has been transported to global South through foreign direct investments (FDI), which in several ways spur economic growth in the global South, particularly in Africa. The MNCs have been the medium through which capital flows from the global North to the global South (Goldstein & Pevehouse, 2011).

Some of the developing nations of the global South, particularly those of Africa have poor economies predicated by insufficient finance, technologies and technical expertise to develop their own industries, hence they rely on the technologies and technical expertise imported from the global North to develop their economies. The question of how then the global North is accused of impoverishing the TWCs? Why are the TWCs including Africa still bearing the underdevelopment status even after colonialism? How then is the global North accused of exploiting the resources of the global South even though the host governments share from the wealth by charging fees and collect taxes, and lending of lands and drilling sites to the MNCs? These important questions thus require answers in order to point out the facts that there are mutual benefits in the north-south economic relationships under the present international economic order.

In several occasions, the national governments and private individuals in Africa are seen partnering with foreign companies as shareholders; and most significantly these companies provide the citizens employment opportunities and perform corporate social responsibility in the host communities, a practice that is very common among the crude oil exploration companies operating in Africa (Goldstein & Pevehouse, 2011). Undoubtedly, the wealthy countries of the industrialised capitalist economies through FDI which is the amount of money they provided or invested in foreign lands, have been able to raise employment rates and growths in domestic product in the South with African countries as one of the beneficiaries. The state of Europe and the United States have also contributed in the opening up of African markets which allowed those with bounteous and limited resources to benefit from international market through exports and imports. Yet, the global South accused the developed countries of Europe for aiding underdevelopment in Africa. In truism, there are several core benefits associated with the inclusion of the traditional Africa economies into the western capitalist system. Recent development driven by increase in international trade ushered in rapid growth in the world economy. The growth in trade reduces trade barriers and increases the growth in transfer of technology, with Africa as one of the beneficiaries. Most of the developing countries, especially those of African continent, have opened up their economies to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the inclusion of the continent into world economy (IMF, 2001). The integration of Africa traditional economies into the world economy, perhaps, is a means for African countries to develop their economies, and reduce poverty rate. Over the past years, the growth of world trade was over six per cent (6%) average per year, twice as fast as world output. Since 1947 and during the regime of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the world trading system benefitted both the developed and developing countries, including those in Africa. Through the introduction of several rounds of multilateral trade liberalisation, the benefits of the world trading system was remarkable. Indeed, the so-called "Uruguay round" which was completed in 1994 led to the establishment of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). This development enhanced the growth of liberalisation of global trade negotiated under multilateral trade agreements (IMF, 2001).

In recent years, virtually all the developing countries share from the benefits of the prosperity of the integration of the world economies. In some circumstances, incomes have gone up dramatically, and in some cases, the developing countries have become more important in world trade system, which now account for one-third of world trade, up from about a quarter in the early 1970s. Secondly, many of the developing countries, including African countries, have subsequently increased their exports of manufactured goods and services relative to traditional commodity export. Manufacturing has also risen to 80% per cent of developing country exports. Trade within Africa has grown rapidly with over 40% per cent of their explorations now going to other developing countries (IMF, 2001). As the World Bank (1997) as cited in IMF (2001:3) stated it, "the opening up of Africa economies to the global economy is instrumental to the recent development in competitive advantages in the manufacturing of certain products". This development is the reason the Bank referred to Africa economies as "the new globalisation" in the world system. Although, there are plethora of challenges but the problem of underdevelopment in the African continent is more of internal than external. This implies that underdevelopment in Africa is internally induced with poor leadership and corruption as the major factors, not necessarily the inclusion of traditional Africa economies into the global economic system.

Challenges of the Incorporation of Africa Economies into the Capitalist Economic System:

Much as African countries benefit from their relationship with the global North through export of foreign capital investments, establishment of companies, imports of technologies and expertise services, employment of labour, revenue generation, and increases in efficiency and opportunity to participate in global economy, much is being said about inequality and exploitation in the north-south relations dominated by the developed economies of Western Europe and North America. Third World scholars believe that the incorporation of the TWCs into the global political-economic system which was characterised by exploitation, underdevelopment and marginalisation, is the reasons for their backwardness. They argued that the reasons for westernisation or Europeanization of Africa in particular were economic and political. As Mzukisi (2007) rightly stated, "Africa's regional and sub-regional integration is an attempt to gain economic freedom to bear satisfactory fruit, and while those of the European countries and some of the developing economies of the TWCs have been successfully used to improve their economic welfares, capital flows and standards of living" (Mzukisi, 2007).

This obvious development has constituted a major problem in Africa and affected the plethora of efforts in Africa to integrate its economies on equal level with those of the developed economies of the world. For example, the blueprint for Africa's economic development, the 'Lagos Plan of Action' and the 'Final Act of Lagos" were workable visions initiated to integrate African markets together, as well as to reintegrate African market into the global market at equitable level which was targeted to be achieved before the year 2000. There was also the Abuja, Nigeria Treaty in 1991, which came into force in 1994 and which was African vision to strengthen Africa regional integration. According to this treaty arrangement, the African Economic

Community (AEC) was proposed to integrate Africa regional economies before 2028 and strengthen the existing regional economic communities and formation of new ones (between 1994 and 1999); stabilisation of existing tariff systems, and integration and harmonisation of economic sector (to be achieved between 1999 and 2007); establishment of a free-trade area and customs union (to be achieved between 2007 and 2017); harmonisation of tariff systems across various regional economic communities (RECs) (2017 to 2019); the creation of a common market and harmonisation of monetary financial and fiscal policies; and establishment of pan-African economic and monetary union (to be achieved between 2023 to 2028) (Mzukisi, 2007:1).

The trend which follows the westernisation and integration of Africa into the world market economy opened a wide potential for greater economic growth as well as highly competitive global market economy which has also placed Africa economies under the control of the imperial powers (Alassane, 1997). The MNCs often regarded as the conglomerates of the advanced capitalist societies of the global North are most often blamed for the underdevelopment in the global South. Secondly, the MNCs are blamed for the exploitation of the resources of African countries and accused of working together with the host governments of African countries and their parent countries to exploit the resources of the weaker states in Africa. The parent countries are also accused of enjoying undiluted loyalty from the MNCs, while African countries remain perpetually dependent and underdeveloped despite abundance of both human and natural resources (Audu, Ologbenla, Anifowose & Abdul-Rahoof, 2013).

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are conceived as instruments of the global North who are the major contributors and controllers to exploit and further impoverish the global South through huge loans with strict conditions for servicing of these loans. This is complicated by the high levels of systemic corruption in Africa, and that which has eaten deep into the fabric of the African society. The gluttonous bourgeoisies from Africa and their foreign allies from the global North enrich themselves from the surpluses derived from the operation of the multinational companies in the global South. Most of the multinational companies operating in the global South also repatriate their profits or surpluses to develop their home countries leaving the host countries of Africa underdeveloped (Audu et al., 2013).

Dependency school which emanated from the global South and dominated by scholars from this bloc argued that the decades of exploitation of the resources of the global South in which Africa belong is the reason for their stagnant economies. The dependency school therefore represents the voice of scholars from the TWCs and their perspectives to development. Majority of the scholars are from Latin American which is regarded as the original Third World. They were the first nation of the third world to challenge the claims of the modernisation school. Reacting to the claims of the modernisation school dominated by scholars from the global North that underdevelopment in the South is caused by self-inflicted internal factors, such as corruption, strict traditions and cultural taboos and refusal of the Third World to follow the path of the First World countries (FWCs) to development. The problem of underdevelopment in Africa which is caused by the inclusion of the continent into European capitalist economy is obviously visible in contemporary African society, though, internal factors such as corruption, poor or faulty recruitment processes of political office holders, tribalism and nepotism, seem to have emerged as the leading causes of underdevelopment in Africa which fits the expression of Igwe in 2012.

Summary and Conclusion:

As there are disadvantages following the incorporation of traditional Africa economy into the international political-economy, there are also a lot of advantages. It was however argued that African nations in particular, were forcefully incorporated into the global political-economy through trade and commerce that subsequently, exposed the resources of the nations of Africa to massive exploitation by the First World (or the global North). A good numbers of Third World scholars believed that the relationship between the global North and South impoverished and subjected African states to their present status as marginalised and dependent economies in the contemporary political-economic system. Studies have shown that the present status of African states as dependent nations follows distinct developmental stages including pre-colonial, slave trade, colonial and neo-colonial eras, and the era of systematic marginalisation of Africa since the 1980. However, the seemingly polygamous marriage between the first and third worlds was said to have, first, manifested during the mercantilist era, and later following the incorporation of the Third World, especially Africa into the international political-economic system.

There is therefore no doubt that the slave trade era which led to the depopulation of Africa and the incorporation of the continent into unequal global Western capitalist system are the fundamental reasons for underdevelopment in the continent. African slaves exported to Europe help to strengthen the economies of the states of the global North because their efforts were deployed to develop Europe but underdevelopment Africa. The accumulation of primary capital by the European powers led to recapitalisation of Africa. The changes in pattern of production from food crops to cash crops which consequently resulted to food crisis in Africa, a situation that is believed to have changed the traditional Africa practices and subjected them to over dependent on finished goods from the industrialised economies of the world is also traced as the reason for underdevelopment in Africa. In other words, the balance of power between the two blocs shifted in favour of the Super economies of the West against their African counterpart. In contrast, integration of the traditional

Africa economies into the global economy has become very successful because participating in global trade has helped them to attract the bulk of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the states of Africa. Whether there are inequality in terms of relations or not, African countries have benefited from their contacts with the European powers in unquantifiable ways, in the areas that concerns exports of technologies and expertise training of African beneficiaries, commerce, education, pursuit of democracy, human rights, criminal justice system (extradition treaties), as well as in military support in times of crisis through the efforts of the UN Security Council.

Recommendations

The following recommendations/suggestions are provided to ensure that the states of Africa rewrite their history to greatness and economic development:

1. Pan-African agenda in this post-Western World should be taking very seriously. In other words, Africa should strengthen the already existing regional and sub-regional economic integrations such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) or the East African Community (EAC) in order to reposition their economies.
2. There is also the need to renegotiate the place of African countries in the existing multilateral international organisations and institutions in which they are members, such as the World Trade Organisation (W.T.O), United Nations (UN), World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
3. There is the need for sub-regional organisations in the African continent such as ECOWAS and COMESA to establish a common bank and currency. This no doubt will enable them compete with their Western counterparts in their trade relations and defeat the imbalances in currency fluctuations that often place the local currencies of the states of Africa far below the U.S dollar, among others foreign currencies.
4. Africa is less developed not because it lacks imputes (labour/capital), but because it uses them less efficiently resulting to underdevelopment. Therefore, staying with sensible and workable policies may break the underdevelopment status of Africa into something akin to those of the developed countries of Western Europe and USA.

References:

1. Agah, B. E. & Ikenga, F. A. (2023). Economic Ties between China and Nigeria: A Study of President Muhammadu Buhari's Administration from 2015 -2022, PERSPEKTIF, Universitas Medan Area https://mail.ojs.uma.ac.id/index.php/perspektif/article/view/8928/4827 Vol.12(2) Pages: 354-366
2. Ajayi, T. (2011). Africa’s Incorporation into World Capitalist System: The Sustantive Features and Issues. *International Journal of Economic Development Research and Investment, 2*(3), 102- 108.
3. Alassane, D. O. (1997). *The Challenges of Globalization for Africa*. Internation Monetary Fund (IMF) Southern Africa Economic Summit, Harare, May 21.
4. Alkali, R. A. (2003). *International Relations and Nigeria’s Foreign Policy*. Kaduna: North Point Publishers.
5. Andre, G. F. (1969). *Capitalism and Underdevelopment in Latin America*. London: Monthly Review Press.
6. Andre, G. F. (1970). *The Development of Underdevelopment*. In R. I. Rhode (Ed.), *Imperialism and Underdevelopment: A Reader*. New York: Monthly Reviw Press.
7. Arowolo, D. (2008). *Contemporary Issues in International Relations*. Lagos: Prince Way Ltd.
8. Arowolo, D. (2010). The Effects of Western Civilisation and Culture on Africa. *Afro-Asian Journal of Social Sciences, 1*(1), 1-13.
9. Aryeetey, E., Court, J., Nissanke, M., & Weder, B. (2003). *Asia and Africa in the Global Economy*. Hong Kong: United Nations University Press.
10. Audu, J., Ologbenla, D., Anifowose, R., & Abdul-Rahoof, A, B. (2013). *Third World Dependency and Development: POL.431course Guide*. National Open University of Nigeria, NOUN, Ahmedu Bello Way, Victoria Island, Lagos.
11. Balaam, M. A. (2020). *Political Economy*. University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Washington. https://www.britannica.com/topic/political-economy.
12. Balaam, D. N. (2024). *Political economy*. Encyclopaedia Britannica Inc.
13. Corporate Finance Institute (CFI) (2020). What is Political Economy? CFI Education Inc. https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/resources/knowledge/economics/political-economy/
14. Dode, R. O. & Egugbo, C. C. (2019). Modernization Theory and African Development in the 21st Century. *KIU Journal of Social Sciences, 5*(1), 85-94.
15. Efebeh Vincent Eseoghene, Ikenga Francis Ayegbunam, Orhero Abraham Ejogba (2021) The Politics of Small Businesses Survival in a Competitive Market: Problems and Solutions, Karadeniz Technical University, Turkey https://turcomat.org/index.php/turkbilmat/article/view/1752 Vol.12(5) Pages: 1068-1076

16. Ejumudo, K.B.O. and Ikenga, F. A. (2015) Globalization and Corruption in Nigeria. Journal of law, Policy and Globalization https://www.iiste.org/Journals/index.php/JLPG/article/view/26780 Vol.42 Pages: 32-42
17. Engel, U. &Olsen, G. R. (2017). *Global Politics and Africa- Africa in International Relations Theory*. In U. Engel & G. R. Olsen (ed.), *Africa and the North between Globalisation and Marginalization*. London and New York: Routledge Taylor 7 Francis Group.
18. Farah, I., Kiamba, S., & Mozongo, K. (2011). *Major challenges facing Africa in the 21st century: A few provocative remarks*. International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy in Africa-Strategies to Confront the Challenges of the 21st Century; Does Africa have what is required? Berlin, 14th – 17th July, 2011.
19. Goldstein, J. S. (2003). *International Relations*. (8th ed). New Delhi: Pearson Education.
20. Goldstein, J. S. (1999). *International Relations*. New York, NY: Longman, Inc.
21. Goldstein, J. S. & Pevehouse, J. C. (2011). *International Relations* (9th ed). United State: Longman.
22. Goldstein, J. S. & Pevehouse, J. C. (2011). *International Relations*. (Ninth Edition). United States: Longman
23. Gonzalo, E. (2013). *A Political Economy Perspective on North Africa's Transitions*. Real Instituto Elcano Climate and Energy Working Paper 20013. Retrieved from: https://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/work-document/a-political-economy-perspectives-on-north-africas-transitions/. Accessed 14th January 2024
24. Gunter, W. (2022). *International Political Economy*. In S. McGlinchey (ed.), *Foundations of International Relations*. London: Bloomsbury.
25. Hussein, S. (2015). African Solutions to African's Problems? African Approaches to Peace, Security and Stability. *Scientia Militaria, South African Journal of Military Studies, 43*(10, 45-76. doi: 10. 5787/43-1-1109.
26. Ibrahim, K. M. & Ainuddin, I. L. A. (2017). The Impact of Globalization on African Culture and Politics. *Journal of International Studies, 3*, 1-14.
27. Igwe, S. C. (2012). *How Africa Underdeveloped Africa*. Port Harcourt: Prime Print Technologies Ltd.
28. Ikenga, F.A. & Agah, Benjamin (2020) Insecurity and the State of the Nation, Hampstead Psychological Associates, United Kingdom https://www.psychosocial.com/article/PR271129/36734/ Vol.24(7) Pages: 11222-11236
29. International Monetary Fund (IMF). (2001). *Global Trade Liberalisation and the Developing Countries*. November 2001. Retrieved from: https://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/ib/2001/110801.htm. Accessed 14th February, 2024.
30. Ita, V. E. 92022). Politics of Foreign Aid and Economic Dependency in Nigeria. *AKSU Journal of Administration and Corporate Governance 9AKSUJACOG), 2*(1), 71-88.
31. Jeffe, H. (1988). *A 1-History of Africa*. London: zed. Kegley, C.
32. Kasongo, K. (2010). Impact of Globalisation in Traditional African Religion and Cultural Conflict. *Journal of Alternative Perspectives in the Social Sciences, 2*(1), 309-322.
33. Keohane, R. O. (2005). *The Nature of Political Economy*. In J. A. Robert & J. Robert. (2005). *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues* (7th ed). New York: Pearson Longman.
34. Madhusha, G. (2015). Evolution of International System. 15 April, https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/evolution-internationa-system-madhusha-guruge .
35. Merlin-Benneth, R. & David, K. J. (2021). *International Political Economy: Overview and Conceptualization*. International Studies Association and Oxford University Press. https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.013.239.
36. Monday, E. D. (2021). Globalisation and Development Challenges in Africa: Prognosis for the 21st Century. *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa, 23*(3), 63-73.
37. Murray, M. J. (1994). *Social Change and Development a World after its Own Image: The Marxist Paradign and the Theories of Capitalist Development on a World Scale*. In P. McGuire & D. McQuare (Eds.), *From the Left Bank to the Mainstream: Historical Debates and Contemporary Research in Marxist Sociology*. Hill, New York: General Hall Inc.
38. Mzukisi, Q. (2007). *The Challenges of regional integration in Africa: In the context of globalisation and the prospects for a United States of Africa*. Institute for Security Studies (ISS), Brooklyn Square, South Africa, Paper 145, June 2007.
39. Niall, D., Bas, H., Marek, R., & Ekaterina, A. (2022). Introduction: The BRICS, Global Governance, and Challenges for South-South Cooperation in a Post-Western World. *International Political Science Review, 43*(4), 469-480. DOI: 10.1177/101925121211052211.
40. Nwokolobia, A. C and Ikenga, F. A. (2023) China and Nigeria relations in a Multi-Polar World, Journal of Public Administration, Finance and Law https://www.jopafl.com/uploads/issue28/china_and_nigeria_relations_in_a_multipolar_world.pdf Vol.Issue 28 Pages: 299-315
41. Oatley, T. (2019). *International Political Economy*. (Sixth Edition). Routledge, p.25. Retrieved from: https://en.m.wikipedia.org. Accessed 21st Januay 2024

42. Offiong, D. A. (1980). *Imperialism and Dependency: Obstacle to African Development*. Nigeria: Fourth Dimension
43. Okereka, O. P., Oluka, N. L., & Efeosa-Temple, C. G. (2020). Leadership Recruitment Process and Dearth of Good Governance in Nigeria: A Perspective of Flag Bearers Selection among Political Parties in Nigeria: *American Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Research (AJHSSR), 4*(7), 295-303.
44. Okeke, G. S. M., Otubanjo, D. A. O., & Pogoson, A. I. (2015). *Political of Development and Underdevelopment*. Course Guide for POL.324, National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Abuja.
45. Oluka, N. L., Ativie, C. A., & Ugboma-Uti, A. U. (2019) Effects of New Imperilaism in Contemporay African States. *Academic Journal of Current Research, 6*(5), 1-18.
46. Osaro, O. A. (2022). Globalization and Development in Africa. *Afro Eurasian Studies, 10*(1), 47-57. DOI: 10.33722/afes.1160952.
47. Parmer, N. D. & Perkins, H. C. (2019). *International Relations: The World Community in Transition*. Krishan Nagar, Delhi: AITBS Publishers India.
48. Robert, J. A. & Robert, J. (2005). *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues* (7^{th} ed). New York: Pearson Longman.
49. Rodney, W. (1972). *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*. Abuja, Lagos, Pretoria: Panaf Publising, Inc.
50. Rostow, W. W. (1960). *The Stages of Economic Growth*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
51. Rostow, W. W. (1971). *The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto* (3^{rd} Ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
52. Shaw, M. N. (1997). *International Law, Fifth Edition*. Cambridge University Press.
53. Santos, T. D. (1970). The Structure of Dependence. *American Economic Review, 60*(2), 231-236.
54. Spero, J. E. (1980). *The Politics of International Economic Relations*. London: George Allen and Unwin.
55. Sunday, E. N. E. (2018). The Politics of International Economic Relations. *International Journal of Political Science (IJPS), 4*(1), 18-27.
56. The National WWII Museum (2020). 75^{th} Anniversary of the End of the World War II. New Orleans. https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/topics/75th-anniversary-end-world-war-ii. Retrieved 3 September 2020.
57. Thong, T. (2012). "To Raise the Savage to a Higher Level: The Westernization of Nagas and Their Culture". *Modern Asian Studies, 46* (4), 893-918, July, 2012. https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westernization.
58. Udeoji, E. A. (2015). *International Economic Relations*. National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Course Guide INR. 481. Ahmadu Bello Way, Victoria Island, Lagos.
59. Wil, H. & Frits, M. (1996). Structure of the International Political Economy: World System Theory and Unequal Development. *European Journal of International Relations, 2*(1), 47-75.
60. Will, K. (2023). *Political Economy: Definition, History, and Applications*. Investipedia, September 25. Retrieved from: https://www.investipedia.com/simulator/?inv_to_sim=global_nav. Accessed 14th January, 2024.