

ACCELERATION AND DISARTICULATION

THE LATEST BOOKS ON GLOBALIZATION

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In the last thirty years, the processes of globalization have spread all across the world with an unprecedented acceleration. According to some scholars, the basis of the severe disarticulation between people and institutions we are facing today lie precisely in the difficulty with which the various governs have tried to rule this “global speedup”: we live in a situation in which the processes of globalization go at the same pace as problems of democracy (*Processi di globalizzazione, problemi di democrazia*).

These “problems of democracy” are now called “populism”. The term represents the “nightmare” of a loss, that is the fear of a revolt against the liberal order (*Du rêve de la mondialisation au cauchemar du populisme*). As the recent facts have showed, this revolt is, especially in Europe, mostly nationalist-oriented, and so it threatens the very idea of a supranational federation as the EU, for, according to some, the people perceive that this kind of institutions could be too easily manipulated to the benefit of private interests (*Original Sins: Globalization, Populism and the Six Contradictions Facing the European Union*).

Yet, regardless of the European problems, one can observe the spread of the “crisis paradigm” all over the world, despite its nature (ecological, social, political, economic, cultural crisis and so forth). There are “dark clouds” at the horizon (*The Globalization Conundrum: Dark Clouds behind the Silver Lining: Global Issues and Empirics*) which need to be faced.

One possible way to do so could be to reflect on globalization from an historic perspective, in order to answer the

question if similar problems have appeared in the past and how they have been dealt with. This imply to recognize the “long-duration” of globalization (*A Big History of Globalization*), as well as the interconnections between global and local of its networks (*Globalism and Localization: Emergent Approaches to Ecological and Social Crises*).

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