

Introduction to Part II

This section will examine the present role that globalism has in economic development and, in doing so, ascertain the importance of transforming it into an effective strategy of development. It will elucidate that, for globalism to exist, much more than economic liberalism is required.

As will be demonstrated in the following three chapters (Chapters 16–18), rhetoric about the importance of economic integration stands in stark variance to the structure and policies that deter it. Instead of having strategies that would ensure a consistent and continuous process of economic integration we seem to be moving further away from this by adopting patterns of growth that are almost disembodied from development. Against a backdrop where poverty and glaring inequalities, not just of income but also of opportunity and resource accessibility, have acquired grave proportions, the prospects of economic integration are becoming less tenable. It is even more alarming to note that this happens amid and despite cognizance about the fact that the world cannot really afford to endure the risks and costs of polarized growth and the marginalization of millions any more.