

closed system, entropy will continually increase, pushing it towards disorder and decay. The same is true for the economic system. Economic globalization has knitted all countries together, and they have to share interests and risks, reducing the possibility of large-scale hot wars. In today's globalization, a country's financial and economic policies can never be confined within its own border. Changes in the monetary policy of the US affect global financial markets, and China's economic policy adjustment also has a significant spillover effect. As their interests are intertwined, economic security has also become a global issue, and no country can deal with it alone; cooperation and joint response need to be strengthened on a global scale. At the same time, global challenges such as climate change, pandemic, and food security are increasing. Global cooperation and global governance need to be strengthened to cope with those global challenges. It has become a pragmatic choice for all countries to strengthen international cooperation, ensure their own security through opening-up, and improve common security. The experiences of East Asia show that a country can have more room for manoeuvre if it has higher level of openness. If one learns to swim in the sea, it would be easier for he or she to swim in the river. the same is true for the opening-up of a country, which can gain an edge in international competition if it voluntarily and pro-actively open up.

#### **IV. New Economic Globalization Trends against the Backdrop of Novel Coronavirus Pandemic**

“Warm and cold, we share together.” Globalization has made it easier for the novel coronavirus to spread. But the pandemic will not put an end to global interconnectedness. It is more accurate to say that the basic direction of globalization has not been changed. Only the adjustment of globalization has accelerated to ensure globalization can be more sustainable in the future.

##### **1. Pandemic triggers reflections on economic globalization**

The huge impact of the epidemic has plunged the world economy into serious contraction, which is second only to the two world wars and the great depression in 1929 during past 100 years. According to statistics, the world economy shrank by 4.3% in 2020, and the GDP of more than 85% of economies declined. **The epidemic has**

**changed people's view of globalization, prompted people to rethink the risks of globalization and re-examine industrial security.** In the name of ensuring supply chain security, some countries begun to build self-supporting or diversified industrial chain supply chains. In 2020, the Japanese government implemented the projects Promoting Domestic Supply Chain Investment and that of Supporting Overseas Supply Chain Diversification to support medical, automobile, electromechanical and other enterprises to increase local investment or disperse to Southeast Asia. In 2021, the US' government launched a investigation into the supply chains of four key products, including semiconductor chips, electric vehicle batteries, rare earth minerals and pharmaceuticals, increased the domestic production of key products, and cooperated with Asia Pacific economies for the diversification of their supply chains. Transnational capital also hunted for rebalance between security and efficiency, preferring to sacrifice part profits but also shortening supply chains to avoid risks. Lamy, former director general of the WTO, said that “preparedness” will rise after the epidemic, production will be more localized, and the global value chain will become shorter; “De globalization” may be exaggerated, and it is more likely to be local decoupling, especially in the medical industry.

## 2. Pandemic highlights urgency of improving global economic governance

Some people can also see opportunities in crises. Some people hold that the existing international governance model has failed to adapt to the development of economic globalization, and **the pandemic has exposed the defects of international governance, which may become a turning point in modern history and bring about a new world order.** The weakening of international cooperation, and the rise of protectionist unilateralism —these characteristics existed before the pandemic hit and became more prominent after the eruption of the pandemic. Henry Kissinger holds that mankind is standing at an epoch-making historical juncture; the pandemic will permanently change world order and it is necessary to prepare for the transition of order and usher in the future world order. In fact, whether the international governance will improve or worsen after the pandemic will depend on the common choice of the international community, especially the choices of major powers, such as China and the United States. In particular, the decoupling theory, the new cold war theory, and the “Thucydides's trap” must be prevented from becoming self-fulfilling prophecies.

**The development of digital economy in the post-pandemic era has provided opportunities for improving global economic governance.** The pandemic has highlighted the bright future of the “digital economy”. In the post-epidemic era, cross-border data flow and digital trade will become new carriers of globalization, and digital technology, digital infrastructure, and the data governance system will become new opportunities for globalization transformation. Ian Goldin, former vice-president of the World Bank and an globalization expert in the UK, holds that the pandemic will not terminate globalization, but highlight the importance of global cooperation. In the post-pandemic era, trade, investment, and travel will all recover and rebound, and the rapid development of the digital economy may also accelerate the process of globalization.

### **3. Pandemic can hardly stop mega-trend of economic globalization despite twists and turns**

From a long-term historical perspective, “counter-globalization is a necessary episode, and globalization is the mega-trend of the world.” Globalization represents the historical torrent of human progress. Even if there are setbacks in the short term, the general direction of development will not fundamentally change. After a round of governance adjustments and rule revisions, globalization may bring about a new round of economic growth. Raphael Cohen, a US expert in RAND Corporation, holds that globalization has undergone the test of two world wars, the Cold War, the war on terrorism, as well as multiple pandemics and multiple waves of anti-globalization. It has become quite resilient and able to withstand pressure. The current pandemic will never become “the last straw to crush globalization” and will not put an end to globalization. From a dialectical perspective, the anti-globalization force has arisen from globalization. It hinders the development of globalization in the short term, and in the long term, it will in turn force countries to make policy adjustments, which help reduce the resistance to the deepening of globalization and promote its in-depth development.

History speaks volumes about the fact that the development of globalization does not be accomplished overnight. Plague, war, crisis, and changing international landscape may all hinder or even interrupt its development. Economic globalization may hit a trough within a certain period of time, and be blocked, or suffer setbacks, but it is set to move forward, like a river flowing towards the sea despite twists and turns.

Globalization and global openness are two sides of the same coin. Pushing globalization to continually move forward and expand openness of the world is the only way to solve the development problems the world faces today. In the same time-space conjuncture where history and reality meet, all countries should follow the law of historical advancement to move forward, pursue development in accordance with the trend of the times, and adapt to the mega-trend of economic globalization. Those who hesitate and adopt a wait-and-see attitude will only lose opportunities and get lost, while those who forge ahead will gain development and contribute to the world.