

## **Multiple Paths to Globalization: The India-China Story**

**Sriparna Basu**

Professor

FORE School of Management

New Delhi - 110 016

e-mail: [sriparna@fsm.ac.in](mailto:sriparna@fsm.ac.in)

### ***Abstract***

*As a complex and multidimensional process, globalization has always invoked mixed responses. It has emerged as one of the most widely criticized concepts across many spheres representing a much contested terrain of ideological struggles and accommodations. A discussion of the implications of globalization, often dubbed as Western pressure to open to trade, inevitably zeroes in on how it negotiates cultural dynamics; whether its inexorability signals an economy of loss for cultures as national borders open to forces of economic restructuring. While critics have warned about the hegemonic impulse embedded in globalization, they often discount the possibility that modern states can also co-opt globalization in their own ways and develop their own influences and alliances contrary to the hub (developed nation) and spoke (the developing nation) model of globalization that has been the basis for assumption for a long time. This essay is about China and India's interactions with globalization. It begins with a review of the interdisciplinary scholarship on globalization; then it traces some of the critical historical memories that have tended to shape China and India's responses to globalization. In mapping the discourses woven into the politics of self-representation that China and India's responses show up, the essay argues that while the paths taken by China and India are indeed grounded in and produced by their own modernities, the cultural/ civilizational influence that modern China has exerted on modern India has not received much attention and deserves scrutiny.*

**Key Words:** Globalization, Self-representation, Cultural influence, Modernity.

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