Then Ends of Globalization – Alternatives and Priorities for Development Research

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- History matters – Currently a double-movement in the Polanyian sense all over the world – with two potential outcomes …. Fascism or Keynesianism

- After the end of the (imaginary) Cold War – the core has invented another imaginary war (on Terror)

- The real turning point is related to “the end of globalization” – at least in its neoliberal sense which is in a deep crisis and fading out as hegemonic ideological devise

- Why is this so and what is next? Three answers:
  1) Financial capital loosing its dominant position vis-à-vis productive capital; 2) Brettonwoods system loosing legitimacy denotes a deep crises of the global governance system: 3) Growth of protectionism and a concomitant decrease of democratic space in the core (with reference to the socalled war on terror and the threat from multiculturalism i.e. growing sentiment against foreigners leads to a growth in pro-nationalist righthwing and fundamentalist/populist forces)

- Alternatives to the stalemate:

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1 Presentation to an international conference in Halifax (Nova Scotia Canada) on October 19-21- Rethinking International Development Studies: Building a Global Consortium Saint Mary’s University

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-Ending the obsolete blind faith in economic growth (it is no longer the solution but the problem) – it means an end to the blind faith in trickle-down policies

-re-inventing systems and policies designed explicitly and directly to achieve social and environmental objectives. The global economic system, in turn, should be designed to promote, foster and support such policies, treating growth as a by-product, and putting the interests of the majority of the world’s population ahead of those of the rich and transnational companies

-The ecological burden – increasing real sustainable solutions at local, national, regional and global levels – de-linking environmental damage from growth

-Alternatives to rising income inequality – increasing distributional policies and implementation of non-commodified land reforms

-Reversing privatization and de-regulation – re-nationalizing natural resources and parastals

-Re-inventing a domestic non-polluting oriented business-sector in collaboration with collectives

-Inventing a citizen-wage and democratic and participatory decision-making structures at all spatial levels

-Re-collectivization of education, health, social welfare and other local and national collectives

-Ending the so-called treat of terror by re-inventing a trans-global civilizational dialogue between cultures, religions and ethnic groups.