

**Countries are becoming more and more similar because people are able to buy the same products anywhere in the world.**

**Do you think this is a positive or negative development?**

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In our today's contemporary world, thanks to the widespread cross-border trade in goods and services, individuals are able to access whatever product they wish for from every corner around the globe, giving rise to the reduction of cultural and social diversity. Even though beneficial implications of such a phenomenon cannot be overlooked, from my perspective this is more of a detrimental issue rather than an advantageous one.

First of all, globalization of international markets has imposed enormous effects on job prospects. As opposed to some advocates who might insist that globalization this trend has led to increased employment opportunities throughout the world, it evidently acts rather differently in that it could shift production from high-cost countries to their lower-cost counterparts, thereby reducing occupational positions in the former. Moreover, owing to the loss of interest in traditional and local merchandise, the aforementioned phenomenon could create havoc in local markets and render their economies stagnant as well. Besides, local products such as traditional medicines, clothes, and handicrafts are part and parcel of a country's culture and customs. With more and more people purchasing goods from international corporations, the loss of countries' distinct customs and traditions are, without a shadow of a doubt, on the horizon. Last but not least, how would someone feel should wherever they travel look exactly the same? There would be no unique souvenirs or ware to buy apart from those in your home country.

The main conclusion to be drawn is that in this writer's view the drawbacks of the mentioned issue outweigh its merits, and that this uniformity can cause a serious harm to the(?) culture and the local market of each country.