Globalization and Nigeria's Trade Development: Prospects and Problems, 2014-2019

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Abstract

Over the past decades, the economies of the world have become greatly connected through globalization and international trade remains a dimension of this. Nigeria is not an exception, thus the trade relations between Nigeria and other countries have grown in recent years. Trade openness promoted by the globalization process has emasculated the Nigeria economy considering the consumption outlook of Nigerian economy. Despite the opportunities inherent in the globalization process, especially as it pertains to international trade; most policy makers and analysts in the developing countries of the world have continuously argued that international trade within the arrangement of the globalised system has remained beneficial to the Capitalist West and emerging economic powers while the developing countries of the world have been on the losing side. There is still lacking tangible benefits to most developing countries like Nigeria from opening their economies even within the euphoria of claims of export and income gains. Utilizing the secondary sources of data, content analysis and the Marxist Political Economy Approach, the paper examines globalization and Nigeria's trade development, its prospects and problems. The paper concluded that international trade within the arrangement of the globalised system has remained to the benefit of the Capitalist West and emerging economic powers while the developing countries of the world like Nigeria have been on the losing side, thus there is need industrialization and production driven economy rather than raw material cum crude centred economy.

Key Words: Nigeria, Globalization, Foreign Trade, Dependency, Political Economy

Introduction

Globalization and its effects on third World (developing countries) economic development with emphasis on Nigerian economy has been an ongoing discourse across various platforms of intellectual exchange, with arguments for and against the new order that have been entrenched in the international system. Thus, globalization has become a ravaging wind blowing across the world due to the intense acceleration in information and communication technology thereby fostering more exchanges and interactions as it reduces the geographical boundaries of all countries into a global village (Ajaji, 2003). The unequal effect of globalization has preponderantly distorted third world economic development and raised alarm on the nature of relationship provided for these third world countries in the international system. The Capitalist countries of the West and such emerging economic powers like China are positioned to continuously benefit from the unequal relationship ensuing from globalization.

Not considering the fears of the inability of such African countries like Nigeria to effectively engage the developed countries of the Capitalist West and even the emerging economic powers like China due to the increasingly problems surrounding these countries ranging across the social order, infrastructure, politics and most especially the economy; there is still a shining light around globalization. It is the argument of proponents of globalization that there is the need for greater international cooperation and recognition, not separate and competing national interest but global interests promoting development and harmony through exchanges and interactions.

Foreign trade or international trade has remained a medium for exchange of goods of comparative advantage between countries and at the same time earn foreign capital needed for other policies of government. There is no country which has grown without the useful tool of trade, however the significance of international trade to economic growth relies a great deal on the conditions in which it works and the purpose it serves. This suggests that there is no country that can produce all commodities in terms of goods and services which its population requires for their utilization and consumption largely owing it to resources differences and constraints (Ndubuisi, 2018).

In most cases most countries import from countries commodities which they could be self sufficient in with reasons that commodities imported may be cheaper than those produced domestically, greater varieties may be made available through imports. In most cases also the imported commodities may offer advantages other than lower prices over domestic production. It is therefore necessary that trade relations exist thus enabling countries to engage in the export of commodities in order to create revenue to be able to import those commodities which cannot be made domestically. Trade plays a key role in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world, and it makes up a large part of the global economy. Promotion of the removal of trade barriers has been a major feature of a globalised trade among countries of the international system.

Globalization supports the free movement of goods and services among countries promoting foreign capital earning and progressive consumption pattern. Trade has been a part of economic development for centuries. It has the potential to be a significant force for reducing global poverty by spurring economic growth, creating jobs, reducing prices, increasing the variety of goods for consumers, and helping countries acquire new technologies. Whereas most countries of the world have been able to optimally harness the prospects provided by international trade in a globalised system through economic policies bothering on production cum manufacturing enabled economy, others are still been held inertia with an intensive consumer driven economy with nothing tangible to give out to the international market. Nigeria in a globalised economic system has been such that have continuously hinged her economic policies on crude oil with also a continuous consumer-import driven economy, whereby the nation imports almost everything (Ajaji, 2003).

Nigeria's economic potential is constrained by many structural issues, including inadequate infrastructure, tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, obstacles to investment, lack of confidence in currency valuation, income per capita has been on the downward trend with no meaningful result from policy changes and limited foreign exchange capacity (https://www.usaid.gov/nigeria/economic-growth). Nigeria is an example of a third world country with its identifiable features highlighting the bad state of affairs in the country and in most developing countries of the world. Corruption due to bad government has become the order of the day as workers strive to survive with meagre income that cannot cover consumption, let alone savings and investments. The Nigerian situation has generally been a clog in the wheel to development as the various macroeconomic indices applied by the government across the years has not been able to positively turn around the economy even within the globalizing world. Inflation, unemployment, armed banditry, terrorism and other vices continue to be on the increase, thereby inhibiting foreign trade and investment.

Considering the level of development attained through the economic enigma of the Asia Tigers- Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Taiwan; even in the globalised system, Nigeria anticipates to overcome her problems and harness the prospects derivable from international trade (Maier, 2000; Abdullahi, 2017; Ndubuisi, 2018). Thus this has necessitated Nigeria's continuous bilateral trade engagement with other countries and such economic policies that will on the long run strengthen its domestic manufacturing industries to be able to compete in the globalised world. The South-South cooperation and intensified economic relations with South Asia, China, India, Brazil and Argentina canvassing support for the development of the Nigerian economy through intense bilateral relations and even bilateral engagement with members of the African Union (AU) and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) among others highlight the role of globalization in Nigeria's trade development and search for economic development (Taylor, 2006; Fadina, 2007; Andohol & Ukase, 2018). This highlights the nature of Nigeria's involvement in the globalizing trade relations. Thus, the main thrust of this study is to focus on the impact of globalization on Nigeria's trade development, identifying the problems and challenges surrounding such, between 2014 and 2019.

Conceptualizing Globalization, Foreign trade and Dependency

The concept of globalization like most concepts in social sciences has no universally accepted definition but have central ideas which revolve around interaction, exchanges and integration that exist within the contemporary international system. Akpuru-Aja (2001) has described globalization as a reality representing the current picture of a complex international system. Thus globalization has many phases, impacts and even interpretations; this is reflected in the perspectives of the concept by scholars and theorists. Globalization has been described as been more than the flow of money and commodities, but a growing interdependence of people and countries across the world and activities thereto through reducing the constraint of space, time and thus removing borders.

Since international relations can be described as all manner of relations between and among states, be it political, social, economical or cultural as the case may be. This explains the need for nations to relate with one another, especially in areas of deficiency or weakness towards complementing their areas of strength. It is really arguable that the growth of globalization has not had an equal effects among globalising countries across the world, thus the impacts are not even on countries, regions, economic groupings and corporate enterprises involved in the international economic system. Thus Akpuru-Aja (2001:143) quoting Maria Elena Cardero Garcia states thus:

> Globalization implies changing in the way production is organized as required by the general dismantling of trade barriers and the free mobility of financial and productive capital, in the context of accelerated technology change... Technological development in the sphere of information and electronic services has been a catalyst for speeding the process; bring about global production distribution and consumption.

Globalization explains the greater opening up of national and international economies to greater flows of trade, finance, capital, high technology, foreign direct investment and market integration offerings ; thus resulting to polarisation of participating countries and economies into participators and beneficiaries. Globalization is defined as a process that, based on international stipulations aims at expanding business operations on a worldwide level. This is precipitated by the facilitation of global communications due to technological advancements, socioeconomic, political and environmental developments across countries encouraging greater flows of trade, finance, capital, technology, foreign direct investment and market integration across economies.

Foreign trade can also be described as international trade and has remained a key element in international economic relations. Foreign trade, however explain exchange between members of different nations. International trade has been in existence since ancient times, as there have been exchanges between and across kingdoms, empires and nations. Ohlin (1933) argued that nations engaged in trading for the same reasons for which individuals or groups within the country trade with each other instead of each one producing his own requirement. This helps to exploit the substantial advantages of division of labour to their mutual advantage (https://efinancemanagement.com/international-financial-management/international-trade).

Over the past years, the nations of the world have been immensely linked together through globalization and external trade; exchange of goods and services between countries. Countries engage in foreign trade, when there are not enough resources or capacity to meet up with the domestic demand by its populace. Foreign trade centrally explains the role of imports and exports in international economic relations. Imports of goods measures the value of goods that enter the domestic territory of a country; while exports not considering the final destination of goods similarly measures the value of goods which leave the domestic territory of a country, not considering whether they have been processed in the domestic territory or not. Foreign trade is the exchange of capital, goods and services across international borders or territories (Jhingan, 1998). This implies transactions that are devised and carried out across national borders to satisfy the objectives of individuals and operations. In most countries, foreign trade represent a significant share of Net National product and Gross Domestic Product. Trade fosters the efficient production of goods and services via resources allocation to nations that have comparative advantage in their productions. Foreign trade has been described as a tool and catalyst of economic growth (Frankel & Romer, 1999).

Okolie (2009) explains that social science literature on globalization, trade and development relations have at various times based their analysis on dependency; thus clearly explaining the impoverishment of under-developed economies as influenced by such external factors like colonialism, imperialism and neo-colonialism disarticulating and distorting their economies and political structure. Dependency is a situation in which a certain group of countries have their economy conditioned by the development and expansion of another in which the former is subject. This at various times has been as a result of the economic unequal relationship that exists between the industrialized countries of the centre and the unindustrialized developing countries of the periphery. Santos (1970; p.231) in Ndubuisi (2018) explained dependency as:

> A situation in which the economy of certain countries is conditioned by the development and expansion of another economy to which the former is subjected. The relation of inter-dependence between two or more economies and between these and world trade, assumes the form of dependence when some countries (the dominant ones) can do this only as a reflection of that expansion, which can have either a positive or negative effect on their immediate development.

Dependency as a concept explains a situation of subordination of one nation by another, to the extent that the subordinate is incapable of taking action independently as it is directly and indirectly influenced by the actions and inactions of the powerful nation. Dependency has been described by some theorists and even authors as an outcome of colonialism and imperialism, thus describing the extent to which an economy is structurally disadvantaged in international division of labour that it lacks the autonomous capacity to exploit, control and manage its natural, economic and human resources without falling to the control and influence of the dictates of foreign economic interest and other interests (Obi, 2006). Thus, there has been an ongoing argument by scholars and theorist that trade relations existing between developing countries like Nigeria and the developed countries of the West and the emerging economies like China and the Asian-Tigers suggest the entrenchment of dependency modelled bilateral trade relations with implication on the economy and even politics of these developing countries.

Theoretical Framework of Analysis

As regards to the nature of the subject, the researcher chose the Marxian political economy theory with dialectical materialism as the defining method of analysis. The reaching arm of international capitalism is continuously reflected in bilateral relations that exist between states in the international system ensuing mostly in the form of foreign trade. The terms for measuring bilateral relations between countries becomes dependent on the genuine efforts by countries entering into such partnership towards seeking mutual strategies for accomplishing common goals that will encourage economic development between them. Considering this, this has made most studies on bilateral relations between unequal countries in terms of trade take note of the requirements for engagement in a globalized world economy. In cases where the weaker states continuously become more dependent on the stronger nations, it then becomes obvious that economic development becomes a mirage not attainable within the structure of international economic relation. Thus, this explains the reaching arms of international capitalism even within the auspices of benefits accruable in a globalized economic system.

The Marxian political economy theory is drawn from the work of Karl Marx and Frederic Engels on social production. Marx and Engels viewed political economy as a comprehensive social science of change from the profit and exploitative capitalist system to a humane, social and public property system (Akpuru-Aja, 1998). The Marxian political economy theory takes into consideration the significance of economic factors in the determination of the behaviour of social groups and that social solidarity, economic relationship and conflict are interchangeably related to each other within a singular explanatory framework considering the fact they are products of the same mode and relations of production in material life of the society. The focus of this approach centres on the contradictions, nature, dynamic changes and developments occurring within a given society (Akpuru-Aja, 1998; Udoh, 2015; Onuba & Ndubuisi, 2019). However, it is necessary to observe that the political economy theory is seen as an intellectual attack on colonialism, imperialism, neo-colonialism and inequality which have been argued to have influenced the continuous inequality and distortions in the global distribution of power in the international system. In our study, the unequal capacity between the developing countries like Nigeria and the capitalist developed countries and emerging economic super powers like China in terms of international trade come to view (Akpuru-Aja, 1998; Igwe, 2002).

Thus the relevance of this framework of analysis to our study is evident in its suitability in explaining globalization in relation with Nigeria's trade development, analyzing its problems and prospects. Nigeria's increasing trade relations within the globalizing international system have been argued at various forum as such which have not yielded the anticipated result which is Nigeria's economic development. Nigeria's fluctuating economy questions the impact of globalization in terms of increased trade relations between Nigeria and her trade partners in the international system. Emphasis on Nigeria's dependent economy, consumer driven economy instead of productive driven economy, crude oil dependent economy and the deep bite of corruption; all these have emphasized the inability of Nigeria to effectively access the dividends of trade in a globalised international system. Also this framework is significant as it presents the global system as largely characterized by a diffusion of power, diffusion of preference and as such reopens the general perception that the West and most countries in the global system in relation with such third world countries like Nigeria have continuously and effectively utilized globalization as a medium to enhance prominence and important role in global political and economic structure (Bukarambe, 2005; Hurrell & Sengupta, 2012).

This explains the dilemma of such countries like Nigeria that are yoked unequally into the globalised international system with other countries that have the capacity to attain and sustain desired economic development. This theory explains the unequal yoking of the developing countries like Nigeria with most developed countries of the world. To put our argument more clearly, it can be observed that the effect of the economic relations between Nigeria and her trade partners, especially the capitalist western countries and emerging economic super powers like China is therefore an avenue to ensure the expansion of the growing market size for these partners considering their productive capacity and search for market for surplus goods produced. This theory therefore exposes the contradictions inherent in Nigeria's economic and political environment, which in specific terms presents Nigeria's foreign relations as such lacking the capacity to foster required economic development since it is constrained by the domination of a mono-source economy dependent on oil trading rather than manufacturing cum productive capacity.

Structure and Character of Nigeria's Trade Development, 2014-2019

Globalization has been described as been more than the flow of money and commodities, but a growing interdependence of people and countries across the world and activities thereto through reducing the constraint of space, time and thus removing borders. Nigeria is one of Africa's largest economies and its leading oil exporter, with the largest natural gas reserves. Other export commodities are cocoa and rubber. The country's economic growth is mainly driven by strong performance in the agricultural, trade, telecommunications, manufacturing and even the film industries (NBS, 2018). Nigeria's economic potential is constrained by many structural issues, including inadequate infrastructure, tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, obstacles to investment, lack of confidence in currency valuation, income per capita has been on the downward trend with no meaningful result from policy changes and limited foreign exchange capacity (https://www.usaid.gov/nigeria/economic-growth). Nigeria is an example of a third world country with its identifiable features highlighting the bad state of affairs in the country and in most developing countries of the world. Corruption due to bad government has become the order of the day as workers strive to survive with meagre income that cannot cover consumption, let alone savings and investments.

The Nigerian situation has generally been a clog in the wheel to development as the various macroeconomic indices applied by the government across the years has not been able to positively turn around the economy even within the globalizing world. Inflation, unemployment, armed banditry, terrorism and other vices continue to be on the increase, thereby inhibiting foreign trade and investment. However, Nigeria's trade development across the years have grown from a limited structured engagement to an increasing complex engagement between Nigeria and her trading partners, especially within the stipulations of the globalised international system. Whereas Nigeria's yearning for economic development can be argued to hinge around exchanges in terms of trade and other bilateral engagements obtainable in her engagements with other nations; there are still fears considering the intricacies surrounding such. Nigeria's trading partners need the raw material deposits domiciled in Nigeria for their productive industries while Nigeria needs the finished products for her consumer population, and at times machines and technology services from these partners. This is so considering the nature of the Nigerian economy which is highly dependent on crude oil and has a consumer intensive outlook unlike that of the Capitalist West and emerging economic powers like China and Asian Tigers (Utomi, 2008; Siollun, 2021).

The Marxist political economy theoretical framework sees crude oil exploitation and exploration as constituting the basis of Nigeria trade relations and hence mono-economy. In the area of bilateral trade relations, Nigeria has overwhelmingly exported crude oil and other primary commodities which are raw and unprocessed and have imported manufactured goods. Thus, whereas globalization encourages exchanges and economic openness; Nigeria's inability to develop its productive capacity and enhance export have ensured continuous trade deficit and import oriented economic culture. In the area of increased trade relations within the period studied (2014-2019); Nigeria's increased trade relations especially with the developed capitalist countries of the West and now emerging economic super powers like China has prospects for Nigeria's economic development. This have ensured access to foreign earnings to finance Nigeria's mono-cultural economy, thus enhancing the capacity to ensure budget implementation, enhance infrastructural development and at the same time enhance the standard of living.

It is observable that even with the great prospects in view the price to be paid by Nigeria is really much. This cannot be realized outside complex trade agreements and increasing debt burden on the part of Nigeria; as these increasing trade relations have ensured

Nigeria's continuous dependence even in the midst of plenty. Countries like Norway, Venezuela and Malaysia have greatly benefited from their oil and gas wealth ; as these resources have been used to transform their economies, particularly in terms of local firm's increased participation, infrastructure development, job creation and backward linkage development but this is not the case with Nigeria (Ariweriokuma, 2009; Tordo et al., 2013). Also it is observable that Nigeria's oil resources have not had a significant economic impact on the majority of the population because of the nature of trade relations and corruption which have eaten deep into Nigeria's public sector. Thus Nigeria's weak trade policy has continuously aided the dependent nature of Nigeria's economy.

Furthermore, unlike the developed countries in the globalised international system China where the public sector and most especially the private sector is driving economic growth and development energized by state support, the defining character of the Nigerian state is relayed in her over-politicisation of its economy; heavy reliance on production of natural resources (most especially crude oil); underdeveloped and disorganized private sector and interest groups which has ultimately created room for devastating de-industrialisation (Ibeanu, 1998; Okolie, 2000). This is manifested in the manufacturing sector's contribution to national output which has been grossly on decline across the years. Thus this has an overlying impact on prospects of Nigeria's increased trade relations across the year. From 1960 to the period of study, various Nigerian governments have signed series of bilateral trade agreements with countries covering such areas like- trade, investment, energy (transmission and distribution of crude oil, production and commercialization of bio-fuels), agriculture (training and capacity building) and even technology exchange (Egbula & Zheng, 2011; NIIA, 2005). Considering the nature of Nigeria's foreign policy and the role of its mono-source economy dependent on crude oil, Nigeria's foreign policy and bilateral relations with such countries within the contemporary globalised international system. Ayodele and Falokun (2003), explains that the mono-economic nature of Nigerian economy has resulted in its continuously comatose condition even in the overbearing arguments to revive, thus this is traceable to the lack of productive linkages in her macroeconomic environment. This ultimately across the years has resulted to widespread poverty, unemployment and inflation problems.

Therefore the role of foreign capital, in this case earnings from Nigeria's increased trade relations with her trade partners constitute the dominant social force in the Nigerian economy and as such is underlined by the weakness of indigenous technological base that has increasingly separated Nigeria's production capacity from her consumption ability, thus accounting for the continuous increase in imports that ensures that consumption is externally produced and that production is externally consumed (especially in oil). The

Nigerian ruling class as lacking the political will to implement beneficial policies, manipulation of primordial absurdities and sentiments, corruption, policy instability as creating an enabling environment for the rapid de-industrialization of Nigeria even with her huge crude oil deposits that will ensure beneficial trade agreements (Ndubuisi, 2018). Whereas in the case of the Asian Tigers, economic development was founded on productive capacity, in the case of Nigeria a vivid demeaning illustration of her dependence on natural resources for revenue rather than production . Considering this, Nigeria's inability to produce becomes an opportunity to engage the productive capacity of the private sector of capable countries like most of the developed countries of the West and now emerging economic super powers like China. Thus, despite the publicly acclaimed export and income gains within Nigeria's increased trade relations, Nigeria seem not to have harnessed these gains as such considering its mono-source economy, bad leadership, lack of policy direction and corruption.

Prospects of Nigeria's Trade Development, 2014-2019

International exchanges dates back to the time of the Mercantilists who gained popularity from the sixteenth century to the middle of the eighteenth century. Hence globalization dates back human history and existed in the form of trade, exchanges and migration among countries. The Nigerian economy was integrated into the global economy before independence as there was contact and exchanges among the tribes, kingdoms and empires that existed then and even outside the geographical space. The people of the hinterland had exchanges and trade transactions with the Portuguese even before independence. Before Nigeria's independence, the British had already integrated Nigeria into the world capitalist system as exporters of raw materials and importers of finished and capital goods and this have ensued even after independence. Unfortunately even till date the benefits of Nigeria's integration into the world globalised system is yet to be experienced (Igudia, 2013; Utuk, 2015).

The possibility of sharing technology, information, culture, promotion of foreign direct investment and most especially trade openness as provided by globalization have inspired growth and prosperity, providing opportunities for millions of people and even nations across the world. At the same time have its attendant effects, especially among weaker economies of the developing countries which Nigeria falls among. Thus it has provided opportunities for some countries and has also weakened prospects for others, introducing disparities among growth prospects of nations (Utuk, 2015; Adedoyin, 2015). International trade has been an area of concern to policy makers and economists. Its importance lies on the ability to obtain goods which cannot be produced in the country or which can only be produced at greater expenses. Also it enables a nation to sell its domestically produced goods to other countries of the world.

The performance of a given economy in terms of growth rates of output and per capita income has not only been based on the domestic production and consumption activities but also on international transaction of goods and services. Trade has remained a catalyst for economic development as it provides an opportunity for nations to export goods, commodities and even services which they have comparative advantage over. For developing countries like Nigeria, the contribution of trade to overall economic development is immense owing largely to the obvious fact that most of the essential elements for development are realizable through earnings made from trade (Jhingan, 2006; Utuk, 2015). Nigerian economy has shifted from an agriculture based economy to a mono-culture and crude oil dependent economy. The economic viability of the nation is strongly dependent on foreign earnings from crude oil sales which have remained Nigeria's major primary export commodity.

From the foregoing, it is observable that Nigeria has not been able to lay hold on the benefits of globalization even when it was integrated into the global economy even before independence. Nigeria's non-oil trade within the period studied highlights an unimpressive performance and several factors accounts for this. Firstly, the nature of product or goods which Nigeria has comparative advantage over; this is determined by the geographical features of a country in terms of relative factor endowments. In the case of Nigeria it is evident that Nigeria has a comparative advantage in the production of labour intensive primary agricultural products which has less competitive demand in the developed countries.

Also the developed countries seem to be erecting trade tariff barriers against the importation of primary agricultural products from developing countries into their country. Nigeria does not even have the required technology and capital needed in the production of manufactured goods that can be exported abroad. So far the crude oil sales has been an aspect of Nigeria's export that have remained beneficial to Nigeria, though with its attendant foreign earnings it has not been possible to translate such to development needed in Nigeria's economic sector (Adedoyin, 2015). Nigeria's trade have centred on agricultural goods, raw material goods, solid mineral goods, energy goods, manufactured goods, crude oil and other oil products with its major trading partners as India, Spain, France, Netherlands, Ghana (major export partners) and India, China, USA, Netherlands, Belgium (major import partners). It is observed that in all these aspects Nigeria imports more than it exports with an exception on crude oil which Nigeria exports mainly (NBS, 2018; NPA, 2018).

Table 1: Summary of Nigeria's Trade, 2014 – 2019 (N' Million)

Year	Import	Export	Balance	Total Trade
2014	7,374,370.5	16,304,041.2	8,929,670.6	23,678,411.7
2015	6,697,965.9	9,593,042.0	2,895,076.0	16,291,007.9
2016	8,817,557.7	8,527,431.0	-290,126.7	17,344,988.7
2017	9,562,719.82	13,598,277.30	4,035,557.48	23,160,997.11
2018	13,165,127.35	18,532,039.98	5,366,923.48	31,697,156.48
2019	16,959,875.06	19,192,234.12	2,232,359.05	36,152,109.18

Source: NBS Report 2014-2019.

Nigeria's trade flow points to the fact that across the period studied (2014-2019) that Nigeria's export earnings except in 2016 have continuously been greater than its import spending, thus largely due to crude oil exports. Also Nigeria has as its route for trade the Apapa Port, Tin Can Island, Port Harcourt Port 1-2-3, Muhammed Murtala Cargo, Seme Border, Kebbi Area Command, Abuja Airport, Warri Port, Sokoto Area Command, Kirikiri Lighter Terminal Command, Lilypond Port and the Kano Airport. It is observable that the level of small scale business outlets around these areas has positive economic implications on the Nigerian economy. The Nigerian Ports Authority generated revenue to the federation account considering the charges on imports made which has been on the increase across the years (NBS, 2018; NPA, 2018).

Problems and Challenges of Nigeria's Trade Development

Though most scholars have argued that globalization stand to speed up economic development prospects across nations in the international system, there also exception to this line argument considering the features of the third world countries which are regarded as developing countries with distinct features differing from the developed capitalist countries of the world. Thus globalization and its effects on third World Economic development with emphasis on Nigerian economy has been an ongoing discourse across various platforms of intellectual exchange, with arguments for and against the new order that have been entrenched in the international economic system. Considering the fact that globalization has become a ravaging wind blowing across the world due to the intense acceleration in information and communication technology thereby fostering more exchanges and interactions as it reduces the geographical boundaries of all countries into a global village; no nation can exist distinct from the provisions of the new order (Ajaji, 2003; Andohol & Ukase, 2018).

The nature of relationship existing between the developed countries and the developing countries questions the prospects of globalization for the later. The developed countries are engaging the developing countries from the position of economic and technology strength. The Capitalist countries of the West and such emerging economic powers like China are positioned to continuously benefit from the unequal relationship ensuing from globalization due to access to capital, technology advancement and industrial capacity. Thus, Siollun (2021) explains that Africa has never been given the opportunity to develop on its own; and the globalising conditions are nothing different from the continuous subjugation of the African countries to continuously remain dependent on the Capitalist West. Globalization as it is to Africa in its current form is similar to the situations presented within Africa's colonial and Neo-colonial periods.

The continuous trade deficit due to the inability to develop a manufacturing capacity making most developing countries like Nigeria to centre their economy on raw material goods and produce is a great problem constraining economic development. Though the trade deficit resulting from trade imbalances can raise a country's standard of living by providing for its population access to variety of goods and services for a more competitive price and reduce the threat of inflation since it creates lower prices due to huge amount of goods imported that are in circulation; the negative effects of trade imbalance cannot be overlooked especially as it affects the increasing trade imbalance witnessed by Nigeria. A situation where imports of consumer goods and produce are more in demand, it gradually poses a threat to home industries and entrepreneurs especially in a country like Nigeria where imported goods are more valued in terms of quality more than locally produced goods, gradually domestic jobs in the local industries or factories become threatened as these industries face the possibility of winding up and would not be able to stay in business due to low patronage (The Commission on Global Governance, 1995; Ndubuisi, 2018).

It is also notable that the population employed by these local industries may become suddenly unemployed and thereby increasing the unemployment level in the country. As such this has impact on the crime rate since the unemployed would easily resort to crime to be able to make ends meet. Even the Nigerian stock market can be affected by continuous trade imbalance resulting to trade deficit since overtime investors will notice the decline in spending on domestically produced goods and on the long run this may result to investors observing few investment opportunities in these local industries and may begin invest in foreign stock markets, as prospects in these markets will be much better than the home market (Ogunsanwo, 2007; Ndubuisi, 2018). This would lower the demand in the domestic stock market and may cause its decline. Also most of these developed countries are accused of failing to create local jobs, flooding the Nigerian markets with poor quality goods, devastating local industries and moreover the trade relations are more to the favour of these developed countries and their multinationals. Also such trade indicators bothering on institutional framework of operation like the wastefulness of government spending, transparency of government policy making, diversion of public funds and ease of doing business have effects on the inability of Nigeria to look towards strengthening its manufacturing capacity and thus witness increased export of finished goods instead of raw materials.

Import has a negative influence on GDP, exports have a potential to create growth and expansion of infrastructure in the Nigeria economy. According to NBS (2018), more than 50% of goods imported into Nigeria annually, notably consumer goods, textiles and machinery are from these developed countries. The truth remains that these developed countries are everywhere and into everything while the developing countries readily maintain their dependent status. Ogunsanwo (2007) explains that the competition is such that will eventually lead to the death of Nigeria's local industries considering the craving for imported goods and the cheap nature of these commodities. The collapse of the textile industry has been blamed on influx of cheaply produced alternatives from China. Wikipedia encyclopedia (2008) observed that:

> However, the flooding of Nigerian markets with cheap Chinese goods has become a sensitive political issue, as –combined with the importation of second –hand European products-it has adversely affected domestic industries, especially in textiles, and led to closure of 65 textile mills and laying off of 150, 000 textile workers over the course of a decade (see also Taylor, 2006).

The link between globalization and Nigeria's trade development has basically highlighted the fact that Nigeria as a developing country has not been able to effectively harness the benefits of globalization in respect to its increasing trade even with the increased foreign earning needed to fund its budget. This is due to the inability of the Nigerian economy to be able to de reformed towards ensuring the production of finished goods, achieve the diversification of its economy and ensure true commitment through sincere leadership to foster economic development.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Analysis of link between globalization and Nigeria's trade development, prospects and problems, between 2014 and 2019 revealed that unequal engaging capacity of developing countries like Nigeria and the rest of the capitalist world. Balance of trade remains increasingly to the advantage of Nigeria's capitalist trade partners with huge trade deficit on Nigeria. Our analysis therefore weighs the question of the positivity and negativity of economic benefits as emphasized by the double edged legacy of economic prosperity and worrisome prospects of such economic alignment and conspiracy envisioned in globalization. Thus we deduced from the above that, globalization undermined Nigeria's trade development between 2014 and 2019 as highlighted in the unequal yoking with the rest of the capitalist world. Also there is no positive link between increased trade and Nigeria's economic development between 2014 and 2019; this due to the continuous foreign earning from Nigeria's crude oil export needed to finance its budget and better the life of its populace but with little or nothing on ground to show for years of crude oil sales. The import oriented economy of Nigeria and weak production capacity have huge implications on Nigeria's yearning for economic development.

Based on our findings, we put forward the following recommendations:

1. To aid Nigeria's economic development drive, Nigeria government and leadership need to be proactive towards ensuring that Nigeria attains industrial development and thus enhancing its manufacturing capacity.
2. The solution to improving Nigeria's manufacturing capacity to produce capital goods cannot be solely dependent on foreign direct investment, but in a radical transformation of the Nigerian economic structure through diversification of the economy, ease of doing business, willingness to adapt to best global practices, provision of needed infrastructure that will aid production and accountability.
3. Nigeria should learn from the successes and failures of bilateral trade relations entered among countries of the world aspiring for economic development and their policies toward development, while also learning from their own experiences.
4. The Nigerian government should undertake a thorough review to investigate what trade agreements have been beneficial for Nigeria's long-term development and what areas need improvement.
5. Nigerian government should take a proactive policy stand towards ensuring research and development thereby reducing continuous reliance on external technology.

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