

Fattori di globalizzazione tra secondo '800 e inizio '900

(corso magistrale di Storia globale
2020-2021)

Tra libero commercio e relazioni imperiali

- Sistemi di dominazione o controllo imperiale o semicoloniale
- Unipolarismo economico e culturale, aspetti di policentrismo regionale
- 1846-1880: ampliamento delle relazioni di libero scambio mondiale
- Crescita del commercio mondiale di 25 volte 1800-1913 (triangolo Europa-Nordamerica-Australia):
- 33% tasso di crescita decennale del *world trade* in termini di valore pro capite 1800-1913
- Impiego della clausola della nazione più favorita nei trattati commerciali
- Ritorno al protezionismo dopo il 1880 causato dalle ingenti importazioni di grano americano e russo in Europa e dalla depressione 1873-1879, e da un ritorno di nazionalismo

Gli effetti del *free trade*

“the setting out of the legal rights of aliens in many of the commercial treaties negotiated during these years enabled trade to expand in a world where the rights of the private traders and of private property were guaranteed by an extensive network of treaties. In short, these treaties created a stable world, in which traders were free to come and go, to organize and invest abroad, almost as freely and safely as in their own countries”

(George Kenwood, Alan Loughheed, *Growth of the International Economy 1820-2000. An Introductory Text*, Routledge, 2002, p. 68)

Gli effetti del *free trade*

“For the classical economist, as for many economists today, universal free trade took on the form of an eternal truth, independent of time or place. Yet in a very real sense the doctrine was a product of its time, for it became the creed of a nation confident in its own power to defeat all rivals in the drive for markets and forced by natural circumstances to depend on the rest of the world for a large part of its supply of food and raw materials. But if free trade had an obvious appeal for the industrially successful nation, it was the failure of the doctrine to deal with the problem of economic development and the complicated relations between advanced and backward economies that formed the basis of the criticisms levied against it by nineteenth-century protectionists such as List, Hamilton and Carey. The controversy is by no means settled even today.”

(George Kenwood, Alan Loughheed, *Growth of the International Economy 1820-2000. An Introductory Text*, Routledge, 2002, p. 68)

Le cause dello sviluppo economico ottocentesco

- Progressi tecnologici in industria e agricoltura
- Trasporti e comunicazioni (Rodrigue, *The Geography of Transport Systems*, 2013)
- Accumulazione di capitale
- Crescita demografica mondiale
- Urbanizzazione
- Disponibilità di risorse naturali
- Aumento dei redditi reali
- Diffusione della libertà economica
- Crescita del commercio internazionale, circolazione di merci
- Aumento degli investimenti esteri
- Congiunture economiche globali: depressione 1873, ripresa, 1896

Abolizione delle *corn laws*: The Guardian, 26 June 1846

FREE TRADE.—PASSING OF THE CORN AND TARIFF BILLS.—At length we have to announce the consummation of that decisive triumph of the principles of free-trade,—the advent of which has been foreshadowed by the events and the discussions of the last eight years, and which every man of political sagacity has, for the last two years, seen to be fast approaching. From the first commencement of the strenuous agitation against the corn-law, which may be dated from the memorable meetings of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on the 13th and 20th December, 1838, it has been tolerably obvious, that whatever might be the apparent strength of the class interests, and the long-cherished prejudices, by which that law was fenced in,—however great might be the numerical amount of the existing majorities in its favour, in or out of parliament,—its fate was sealed; for **THE ARGUMENT** was decidedly against it, so decidedly, indeed, that its warmest advocates never dared to touch the real grounds of the controversy, which was carried on respecting it.

No doubt great difficulties had to be encountered and overcome before the burthen could be removed from the shoulders of the people,—difficulties which might well have deterred even the most resolute men from the enterprise, unless actuated by a deep sense of its absolute necessity. But those who took note of the parties embarked in the struggle for free-trade, soon became convinced that, whatever could be effected by industry, perseverance, and self-devotion, they would certainly accomplish; and then, indeed, not only did the repeal of the corn-laws become ultimately certain, but the period of its arrival might almost be calculated upon. As the contest proceeded, it was marked by successive events which served to show the progress of the principles of free-trade. Nearly all men of experience and reputation as statesmen or legislators, repudiated, one by one, the general principles on which the corn-law had been originally defended,—(and on which alone could it be long defended with any chance of success),—and rested their case on the little specialties alleged to belong to the particular case. This change in the grounds on which the law was defended by its most eminent advocates, marked an important stage in its progress; and we more than once directed the attention of our readers to it, as indicating the near approach of that victory, on the attainment of which we have now to congratulate our readers.

segue *The Guardian*, 26 June 1846

Probably at no period in the history of the world has a change so important in itself, and so repugnant, in the first instance, to the feelings of the great body of those possessing political power in the country, been effected, in so short a time, by the mere force of reason and persuasion. The agitation for the repeal of the corn-law has never been marked, like other efforts made to effect great legislative changes in this and other countries, either by popular violence or by formidable assemblages of people. Instead of the large and excited meetings which marked the agitation for parliamentary reform, the meetings in favour of a repeal of the corn-law have been remarkably unobtrusive; so much so, indeed, that the friends of the law have frequently taunted their opponents with not daring to call large assemblages of the working classes, to consider the subject. Perhaps, if they had pushed their opposition a little further, they might have been undeceived on this point; but we are glad that the necessity never arose, and that the matter stands as it now does;—that this great triumph of the principles of free-trade has been obtained by the purest and most unobjectionable means that can be employed in party strife, namely, by the force of reason and argument; by acting, not on the fears or the passions, but on the convictions of statesmen and legislators.

With respect to the future consequences of this important measure, it is as yet too early to say much. The modified freedom of trade comes at a time when mercantile confidence is impaired, not only by the retirement of one administration, and great uncertainty as to the stability of another, but also by a fear of the evil consequences of excessive railway speculation, and consequent monetary derangement. It is not unlikely, therefore, that those who expected an immediate and striking improvement in the trade of the country as a result of the repeal of the corn-law, will incur some disappointment; but we may be assured, that the beneficial results of the measure, though crippled and diminished by unfavourable circumstances of a temporary character, will still be immediately felt, in the steadiness and security which it will give to many mercantile undertakings, and in the moderate price of food which it will secure to the people. If it will not produce immediate prosperity, it will, at all events, tend to diminish the severity of the pressure in which, from a concurrence of unfavourable circumstances, the country seems likely to be involved.

Le cause dello sviluppo economico ottocentesco: migrazioni

- 1850-1914: 60-70 milioni di persone cambiano paese in via definitiva
- 40-45 milioni Europei verso le Americhe
- 7 milioni nella Russia
- 11 milioni indiani, cinesi e giapponesi verso Sudest asiatico, Stati Uniti, Sudafrica, Africa orientale
- 1811-1867: 2,7 milioni di schiavi venduti negli Stati Uniti (nonostante bando nel 1807)
- Rete globale di rapporti di parentela, diffusione di culture, abitudini, tradizioni

Fattori di globalizzazione economica

- 1870-1913: sviluppo di una rete multilaterale di pagamenti internazionali per il movimento di merci, servizi, capitali, redditi
- Sviluppo di un sistema monetario internazionale: *silver standard*, bimetallismo prevalente nel 1870, il *gold standard* (1821: precedenti in Gran Bretagna; transizione graduale post-1870, 1878: adozione in Gran Bretagna, Belgio, Olanda, Francia, Germania, Svizzera, paesi Scandinavi; anni '90: Austria, Russia, Giappone, India; 1900: Stati Uniti; post-1900: Siam, Ceylon, Argentina, Messico, Perù e Uruguay; solo la Cina nel 1914 ha ancora uno standard basato sull'argento)
- “the international gold standard was in full sway only from perhaps 1897 (some would argue 1880) to 1914, less than 20 (or just over 30) Years” (Kenwood-Lougheed, *Growth of the International Economy*, p. 109)

Fattori di globalizzazione economica

- «The international economy played a major role in promoting the spread of economic growth in the nineteenth century. The flows of trade, capital and labour, which linked countries together economically, not only provided the means whereby the benefits of economic growth, in the form of higher real incomes, could be transmitted from country to country, but they were also the mechanism through which the technological and social innovations that are the essence of modern economic growth could be diffused” (Kenwood-Lougheed, *Growth of the International Economy*, p. 120)
- Diffusione dell’industrializzazione, centro-periferia, Gran Bretagna 1820-1870; altri paesi post-1870
- Mobilità e circolazione-tecnologia-metodi produttivi-merci-idee e comportamenti-innovazioni finanziarie;
- Progressi dell’alfabetizzazione
- L’esperienza dello spazio e del tempo; adozione di *standard* internazionali: meridiano di Greenwich, 1884, fusi orari, rilevazioni meteorologiche mondiali, il “clima mondiale”, primi esempi di una coscienza della limitatezza delle risorse (crisi del legno [“timber heist”] al passaggio del secolo); nuovi mezzi di trasporto per terra e per mare; fine scoperte geografiche (Peary al Polo Nord, 1910, Amundsen al Polo Sud, 1911)

Tra internazionalismo e nazionalismo nel sec. XIX

- L' «international turn» alla fine dell'800 e i primi del '900 (Glenda Sluga, *Internationalism in the Age of Nationalism*, 2013); un “objective Internationalism”
- “the mechanisms of that turn were the new ‘objective facts’ of steam, electricity, and trade. Roads and railways, canals and ocean carriers, and telephone, telegraph, cable, wireless news, and mail services had all transformed economies and provided the opportunities for cooperation and sociability across the political borders of empires and nations” (pp. 12-13)
- “ [...] they provided the infrastructure and motivation for the international institutions and associations devoted to all manner of internationalized political, economic, religious, and humanitarian issues proliferating across the world” (Ibid.)

Tra internazionalismo e nazionalismo nel sec. XIX

- 10 nuove organizzazioni internazionali ogni anno dal 1890 (solo 5 in tutto a metà '800); «a new self-consciousness of the internationality of everyday life” (Sluga, p. 14)
- The International Telegraphic Union (1865)
- Prima (1864) e Seconda Associazione internazionale dei lavoratori (1889)
- The Universal Postal Union (1874)
- The International Union for Weights and Measures (1875)
- The International Union of Custom Tariffs (1890)
- International Office for Public Hygiene (1907)
- International Olympic Committee (1894)
- The International Co-operative Alliance (1895)
- The Universal Esperanto Association (1908).
- The International Committee for Relief to the Wounded (1863, poi he International Committee of the Red Cross in 1876)
- International Council of Women (1888)
- International Woman Suffrage Alliance (1904)

Tra internazionalismo e nazionalismo nel sec. XIX

- «a new self-consciousness of the internationality of everyday life” (Sluga, p. 14)
- “anything happening in the most remote part of the world makes its immediate impression upon the society of nations” (J. A. Hobson, “The Ethics of Internationalism,” *International Journal of Ethics* 17, no. 1 (1906): 16-28)
- Il diritto internazionale, l’“esprit de l’internationalité”, Tobias Michael Carel Asser, Gustave Rolin-Jaequemyns, John Westlake e la [*Revue de Droit International et de Législation Comparée*](#) (1868)
- First Inter-Parliamentary Union conference in Norway in 1899
- Association de la Paix par le Droit, 1902
- International Peace Bureau, Berna, 1891
- Hague Peace Conferences, 1899 e 1907
 - 1899: sixty-one articles for curbing the arms race, the humanization of the conduct of war, and the formation of a **Permanent Court of Arbitration**
- Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society, International Arbitration and Peace Association, Positivist Society
- Subject Races International Committee, 1907
- Universal Races Congress, 1908 (W. E. B. Du Bois)

Utopie di globalizzazione

- Liberismo economico (Richard Cobden, John Bright, John Bowring); Anti-Corn Laws League, Manchester (1836-1838)
- Abolizione Corn Laws, 1846; trattato commerciale anglo-francese, 1860
- Mito del progresso
- Marxismo: industrializzazione, sviluppo del proletariato, movimento rivoluzionario globale guidato dai proletari di tutto il mondo uniti contro il capitalismo
- Universalismo della civiltà occidentale
- Cosmopolitismo, patriottismo, imperialismo, razzismo e il mito del fardello dell'uomo bianco tra le razze più deboli
- Mistica dell'internazionalismo, una religione secolare, la «religione dell'umanità»
- Ecumenismo e pacifismo

Storia delle masse e dei raduni di massa

- Spontanei/organizzati
- Le invasioni/migrazioni
- Gli eventi pubblici e le celebrazioni
- I pellegrinaggi
- I mercati e le fiere
- I raduni a sfondo religioso
- Eserciti in movimento
- L'agitazione politica e sindacale, gli scioperi, le manifestazioni
- Le grandi esposizioni
- Gli eventi sportivi
- Le parate militari
- I raduni musicali, festival, concerti, mostre, proiezioni
- I trasporti: porti, aeroporti
- Le migrazioni spontanee
- I campi profughi
- [Le problematiche sanitarie: la WHO](#)
- Studio delle problematiche di prevenzione (Koski et al., «Preparedness for Mass Gatherings: Factors to Consider According to the Rescue Authorities”, [MDPI, 2020](#))

Fonti: storia economica

- [Berkeley Library, Library Guides: Economic history](#)
- [Making of the Modern World: Goldsmith Kress Library of Economic Literature](#). Digital collection of books from 1460-1850 and pre-1906 journals on economics, political science, history, and banking
- [Economist Historical Archive](#). Complete searchable copy of the Economist since it was first published in 1843 through 2007
- [Global Commodities Trade Exploration and Cultural Exchange](#). Digitized collection of original manuscript and printed documents from around the world to support the study of major commodities
- [EHNet Databases](#). Historical data sets from the Economic History Association: global financial data, wages, bond trading, early securities prices, developing country exports, historical labor statistics, and much more
- [International Historical Statistics \(E-Book Version\)](#). Historical data for Asia, Oceania, Africa, the Americas, and Europe, from 1750. The digital equivalent of B. R. Mitchel, *International Historical Statistics*
- [International Historical Statistics. Africa, Asia and Oceania](#). B. R. Mitchell. Key economic and social indicators for Africa Asia and Oceania from 1750

Fonti: storia economica

- [Angus Maddison](#)
- [Maddison Historical Statistics](#)
- [Maddison Project Database 2020](#)