

What Globalisation Means

Sociology

The four flows the term covers, and why they do not move together.

The deepening of cross-border connection in economic, political, cultural and demographic life, such that distant events shape local ones more directly.

FREEST FLOW
capital

MOST RESTRICTED
people

- Capital: finance moves fastest of the four.
- Goods: trade in components, not finished items.
- People: the most restricted flow by far.
- Culture and information: cheapest to move.
- Giddens: time-space distancing.
- Robertson: the world compressed and made one.

LOOK FOR IT

A currency position can cross a border in a second; the person holding it may wait years for a visa.

Educational reference. Not a single process: measures of trade, capital and migration integration diverge markedly.