

Review Excerpts for *In Defense of Globalization*

In Defense of Globalization is an important contribution to an often incoherent debate. As we expect from Mr. Bhagwati, it is cogently argued and well written. It sets out a persuasive case in favour of globalization. And because of Mr. Bhagwati's impeccable credentials, there is a better chance his book will be given a fair hearing than might be the case with some other authors. Put simply, Mr. Bhagwati has "street cred."

Anne Krueger, The Financial Times (Op. Ed. Page Review)

A splendid and highly readable *tour de force*; arguably the best book yet on the great issue of our time.

Fred Pearce, The New Scientist

[Bhagwati's] charming cosmopolitanism will ... allay the fears of critics convinced that economists are incapable of appreciating non-economic values. Literary references flow from the pages, from Lady Murasaki to King Lear to Woody Allen.

Daniel Drezner, The New York Times Book Review

Sprinkled throughout the book are literary and cultural allusions; you are as likely to encounter Shakespeare, Dickens, Dostoevsky, or T.S. Eliot as an empirical table or chart...a relentless economic logic suffuses its pages, but that logic expresses itself through narrative arguments and examples rather than merely through numbers...He quotes liberally from the anti-globalization critics, confronting their best arguments rather than knocking down straw men, and acknowledging up front the complexities and ambiguities of the debate rather than painting everything in black and white...a book brimming with engaging arguments and good sense.

Daniel Griswold, The National Review

Bhagwati combines the hard-nosed perspective of a liberal on trade and investment with the soft-hearted sensitivities of a social democrat on poverty and human welfare. He thus has an admirable ability to address patiently and sympathetically globalization's wellmeaning but wrong-headed critics. This book offers a cogent, erudite and, indeed, enjoyable discussion of economic globalization and its discontents.

Richard Cooper, Foreign Affairs

In this elegant book, one of the world's preeminent economists distills his thinking about globalization for the lay reader... Armed with a wit uncharacteristic of most writing on economics and drawing on references from history, philosophy and literature as well as some 'state of the art' econometric analysis, he sets out to prove that the anti-globalization movement has exaggerated claims that globalization has done little good... this is a substantial study that is about as enjoyable and reassuring a work of economics as may be possible to write in this uncertain age.

Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)

No other book on globalization covers as wide a range of issues as Bhagwati's. Indeed, his book is the best one-stop shopping for readers seeking a panoramic view of all the controversies that make up the globalization debate...Perhaps the best reason to pick up this book is Bhagwati's inimitable writing style. The book is laced with amusing vignettes and turns of phrase...all readers can profit from his provocative insights and lively style.

Douglas Irwin, Finance & Development

The beauty of Dr. Bhagwati's persuasive case for globalization lies in his prose, a touch of poetry that has already been rewarded with the Eccles Prize for Excellence in Economic Writing, and his wry humour. As an unalloyed admirer of the prose of John Kenneth Galbraith, the only economist to have touched the hearts and minds of non-economists, I believe we now have in Dr. Bhagwati a fitting successor to Dr. Galbraith.

Sanjaya Baru, The Financial Express (India)

Jagdish Bhagwati never tires of proselytizing for free trade and open borders. The Columbia University professor, 69, has contributed so much to trade theory that the great Paul Samuelson once spoke admiringly of "the Age of Bhagwati" in that branch of economics. He is on many shortlists for a Nobel Prize and was a top adviser on trade to both the U.N. and the World Trade Organization...Bhagwati is an old-school political economist, one who knows his math but leavens his theories with insights from both classical and popular culture. He has a weakness for gentlemanly witticisms and literary allusions, ranging from Hierocles, the Stoic, and William Shakespeare to Lady Murasaki, an 11th-century Japanese novelist. In one aside, he complains that the novels of V.S. Naipaul "do not have a single tender love scene"...In defending globalization, Bhagwati isn't standing up for the status quo. He's making the case for a humane form of globalization guided by enlightened government policies.

Peter Coy, Business Week

Like any good professor, Jagdish Bhagwati likes to see what his students read. When he saw them carrying his Columbia University colleague Joseph Stiglitz's *Globalization and its Discontents*, Mr Bhagwati felt it was time to react... The result is a new book, *In Defense of Globalization*... Later this week, Mr Bhagwati will present his views on globalization at a debate at the London School of Economics... To understand Mr. Bhagwati's nuanced world view, consider his path. He was born in pre-independence India, and grew up in a poor country, surrounded by energetic, entrepreneurial people who were stymied because of the wide gap between their considerable political and limited economic freedom.

After studying in Britain and the US, he began his long and distinguished teaching career in top American universities. His pioneering work in trade theory remains the benchmark; his students include Paul Krugman and Jeffrey Frankel, both respected economists. His enthusiasm for an unfettered market was tempered at least partly by his frequent interactions with his elder brother, Prafulchandra Bhagwati, who retired as the chief justice of the Indian supreme court in 1986, after pioneering public interest litigation. While the economist argued for greater opportunities for the poor, the judge championed free legal aid for the poor, so that they could assert their rights.

The Guardian (UK)

To dismiss the protestors as spouting nonsense is not helpful. The right course is to engage with them (or at least with those who are prepared to listen), and this is what Bhagwati, one of the world's leading experts on trade and development, has been trying to do for several years. His latest book based on his experience as an academic and policy advisor in India and the US (he is currently a professor at Columbia University), addresses calmly and with gentle good humor most of the key issues in the globalization debate... With the protectionist sentiment on the rise in the US and elsewhere, Bhagwati's reaffirmation of the virtues of open-markets is timely. Will left-wing students and teachers stuck in an anti-capitalist mindset pay any attention? Perhaps not, but if they really want to change the world, they will find far more useful information, and a great deal more wisdom, in this book than in the outpourings of George Monbiot, Naomi Klein and other anti-globalization campaigners.

Sir Geoffrey Owen, Daily Telegraph (UK)

This work is of major importance, as it authoritatively tackles the main intellectual charges against globalization. . . . Hopefully, this book will convince at least some of those who gullibly joined the fashionable, but dangerous anti-globalization movement that in doing so they have actually abandoned themselves to the devices of intellectual manipulators, political demagogues, and economic reactionaries. The post-Cold War era's dominant economic trend finally gets its defense sheet.

Amotz Asa-El, Jerusalem Post

Up to now, anti-globalist works have had too much the upper hand. Many pro-globalization books are so badly argued, so keen to deploy anecdote not evidence, that they discredit their cause. So far as credentials go, note that anti-globalists would regard Joseph Stiglitz's bestselling "Globalization and its Discontents", published in 2002 (and not too kindly reviewed in the *Economist* of June 6th that year), as mostly taking their side... Mr. Bhagwati's new book, "In Defense of Globalization", will help to restore the balance-in sales and readers, it is to be hoped, as well as in other ways. Mr. Bhagwati has ample reserves of academic eminence: he is a pioneer in trade theory and the author of numerous scholarly works. But what matters more is that he has written an outstandingly effective book-his best popular work to date. Until further notice "In Defense of Globalization" becomes the standard general-interest reference, the intelligent layman's handbook, on global economic integration... Balanced, compelling and thorough in its use of evidence, there is much here to make globalists and anti-globalists alike think again, and perhaps even to narrow the difference between them.

The Economist

There is little about *In Defense of Globalization* that can be described in less than superlative terms. This book by super-distinguished economist Jagdish Bhagwati should be on every policymaker's table, and especially those who argue about the need for a "human face" to economic reforms...Bhagwati's distinguished scholarship awaits a Nobel Prize.

Surjit Bhalla, India Today

Mr. Bhagwati slams through fact after fact, statistic after statistic, demolishing those who claim the poor are worse off because of globalization. He warns that many problems of poor countries are self-inflicted, such as trade barriers against one another. If Mr. Bhagwati does not get a much deserved Nobel Prize for economics, he should get one for literature. His writing sparkles with anecdotes and delightful verbal pictures.

Mike Moore, The New York Sun

If Bhagwati can't convert the unbelievers into enthusiastic globalizers, probably no one can...Bhagwati demonstrates admirable fairness toward his opponents... An amusing, charming and erudite debater.

Paul Gray, The New Leader

Whether it is the prevalence of child labor in South Asia or environmental degradation worldwide, globalization has a lot to answer for, if one reads its best-selling critics like Naomi Klein or Joseph Stiglitz. Now, Jagdish Bhagwati, a Columbia University professor and a Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in the United States, has stepped forward with a lucid defense. Given the self-righteousness of some of its critics and the paucity of eloquent defenders (with notable exceptions like Hernando de Soto), this book hasn't come a day too soon. Bhagwati's account is witty and eclectic. He draws on a wide range of disciplines and opinions, ranging from Nigerian novelists and German poets to French structuralists, Russian anarchists, Indian economists and American executives. The message: There are things wrong with the world, but they're not globalization's fault. Globalization does not need a human face, because it is a human process, its influence largely benign... this may sound like an unusually sunny view of the world. But the picture that emerges after his sweeping broad brush is convincing.

Salil Tripathi, Far Eastern Economic Review

Mr. Bhagwati shows us why the critics are not only wrong but tragically wrong, for to give in to anti-globalist reasoning is, without exaggeration, to condemn millions of people to poverty, disease and death...coming from India, one of the world's most impoverished nations, Mr. Bhagwati knows all too well that the critical economic question is not how to divide the pie but how to make it bigger. And trade remains, as he notes in "In Defense of Globalization," the most powerful way of doing so—a key to creating wealth and reducing poverty.

Bruce Bartlett, The Wall Street Journal

Globalization has become a staple issue of presidential election campaigns. That's particularly true this year, given the relatively high unemployment rate and concern about the outsourcing and offshoring of jobs...But as in many political debates, the emotion of the issue often overwhelms reasoned thought, and free trade is broadly tarred as a malignant force that's ruining the U.S. economy and exploiting a hapless developing world. The unrepentant free-trader Jagdish Bhagwati, a noted Columbia University economist, takes exception to that view. His new book, *In Defense of Globalization* (Oxford University Press, 308 pages, \$28), is a detailed, fact-filled treatise on why globalization benefits both the developed and developing world.

It's well-timed and an instructive. And unlike many other economic texts, it's easily accessible to lay readers...Regardless of whether you agree with him, Dr. Bhagwati's economic writings are worth reading because he presents the issues of the day in an approachable yet thoughtful manner.

Vikas Bajaj, The Dallas Morning News

In this splendid book, Jagdish Bhagwati, master economist on international trade, argues that globalization is good not only for growth, but also for poverty reduction—among other social objectives.

The fears that many antiglobalizers relate to accentuation of poverty, erosion of unionization and other labor rights, oppression of women, endangerment of local culture,

and environmental damage. Bhagwati argues that these are all unjustified fears, and that many social objectives in fact can be furthered – with wise management of globalization.

Paul Streeten, Barron's

This book has arrived not a day too late. A lot of rubbish has been floating in the air ever since May 13, when our election results came out. Silly ideas, discredited years ago, have been revived and assiduously marketed by the Left, creating the illusion that India's centre of gravity has shifted against the global market system. To those undecided in this battle of ideas, Jagdish Bhagwati's charming and highly readable *In Defense of Globalization* offers well-thought-out answers to the questions that have been raised over the past few weeks...In this book, Bhagwati seriously takes on bogus arguments of the anti-globalization lobby and shows them for what they are- a threat to human development. He argues globalization is not the problem but the solution.

Gucharan Das, Outlook (India)

As you might suspect, given Bhagwati's pedigree, some (though not all) of his writing has been a bit ...er, challenging (at least for those of us who react to the sight of complex equations by switching on *Sports Center*). But now Bhagwati has produced a new book aimed squarely at non-Ph.D.s. the book is titled *In Defense of Globalization*, and in it the professor addresses the concerns that animated the antiglobalization movement as it reached a crescendo at the turn of the millennium. Does the international market economy worsen poverty in developing countries? Does it erode democracy? Hurt the cause of women? Trash the environment? Exacerbate the exploitation of child labor? As Bhagwati told me when I visited him recently, "this is what average citizens are worried about, and what—if I took off my economist's hat and thought like a normal human being—I would worry about as well." Bhagwati's answers to all these questions make for a supremely worthy read."

Business 2.0 magazine

Summer is usually a time to catch up on some reading , so I thought I'd share with you a few of the most interesting books I have read recently , all of which manage to convey rather deep insights into important aspects of today's world... Try " In Defense of Globalization" by Jagdish Bhagwati , who is a university professor at Columbia University and a senior fellow in international economics at the council on Foreign Relations (both posts being non-partisan). Bhagwati was a practicing economist and government advertiser for India for many years before moving to his country, and his perspective is enriched by direct experience in the real world of developing, as well as developed, countries –experience that, alas, is all too often rare with practitioners of the "dismal science", as economics is so aptly called .Don't be misled by the title. This is not some kind of political diatribe. On the contrary, it is a direct presentation of facts, data and studies, summarized and explained so that a non-specialist can understand them. And in presenting the material, Bhagwati demolishes one after another of the political slogans and canards that have characterized the anti-globalization movement.

Daniel Greenberg, Metro West Daily News