



No Exit: **A voice for Globelics?**

Reflections on research on global governance

Luc Soete

Universiteit Maastricht

MERIT

<http://www.merit.unimaas.nl>

First Globelics Conference, Rio de Janeiro, November 3rd-6th, 2003

Outline

- Beyond the borders of the *Globelics* village
- The global in *Globelics*
- Global vs traditional forms of governance
- Two frameworks proposed:
 - Exit, voice and loyalty
 - State, market and community
- *Globelics* as “voice”



Beyond the borders of the *Globelics* village

- *Globelics* initiative started from within the research tradition of national innovation and competence building systems
- International comparative analyses (Lundvall, 1985, Freeman, 1987, Nelson 1992, Edquist, 1997) highlighting national institutional diversity
- Two visions underlie *Globelics*:
 - Research “enlargement” both in content and geography
 - Focus on South to counter policy induced research “diversion”
- Focus here on changing global environment



The global in Globelics

- Ulrich Beck: “ conventional social and political science remains caught up in a national-territorial concept of society.”
- Analytical confusion in the debate
 - Illustrative of dual notion of “change”
 - Mixture of positive and normative aspects
 - Multi-disciplinary, -culturally, -ideologically
- Global economy, security, environment, culture, media, ideology, democracy, law, etc.



Governance

- Three main spheres of governance:
 - state, market and community
- Reflected in complex mix of institutional arrangements:
 - ideal type modes of coordination of individuals based on reason (state), interest (market) and passion (community)
- Social order is depended on institutional balance between each of these elements: any monistic institutional design will destroy other components
- Offe's six fallacies...



Global Governance

- Global governance differs from traditional governance: there is no outside world, no external disciplining force
- There is *no exit* from globalization: global governance is an exercise in collective self-control
- Application of Hirschman's "Exit, voice, loyalty" framework to global governance
- Crucial importance of voice: creates commitment, identification, in the end loyalty



Globelics as voice?

- NGOs as intermediary fourth position between state, market and community giving so to say voice to the voiceless...
- Globelics is of course not a NGO, but has many such features:
 - Non-governmental sponsored
 - A 'negative identity' as alternative network in research focus
 - A strong voluntaristic-based participation
 - A not-for-academic but global 'public good' research purpose
- **Globelics**: a new research NGO voice?

