The Theory of Collaboration

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The main reason why the globe is ever at war is due to the economic challenges that are slavishly dependent on the production of goods by different countries. The best example is the automobile industry, where countries compete in the bulk generation of automotive. Other middle nations are the key members within the chain of automobile supply. Consequently, competition, demand, and prices can provide a stumbling block towards the harmony of the countries that deal with the generation and supply of automobiles. The situation may fluctuate at a temporary level, but when the situation worsens, the economic crisis can lead to a full-fledged country or regional war. It is against this background that Thomas Friedman through his Theory of Conflict Prevention described the world as a flat place (Friedman, 2013). According to him, there is high probability of countries that are part of the global supply chain to fight each other. The primary reason is that while fighting an economic war, a mega disruption with regards to industries occurs, and it leads to a negative financial conflict. Relationships between Pakistan and India and a ‘battle’ between Taiwan and China are classic examples. It is, therefore, essential to discuss collaboration as a measure that can prevent complications that emerge from economic conflict using Freidman’s argument.

One of the wonders of this globe is the chain symphony of products. For a phone factory to accomplish the production and supply of a phone device, it has to operate under various collaborations that involve several countries. In order to meet the ever-constant demand that gets shaped due to numerous reasons, a product like a phone requires devices that come from different countries. For instance, it will need a power adapter that is only available in Thailand, a British manufactured power cord, and memory sticks made by Israeli companies. The constant processing progress is what makes the phones produced meet the demands of their clients to emerge from various countries globally. Now, this is the necessity of collaboration within companies. The broader geopolitics of the flat world can get neutralized by one chief factor, and that is collaboration. All forces that hold the flattening of the globe are the forces that can reverse the collaboration process and lead to entirely fledged economic strife (Haeber, 2008). Consequently, geopolitical conflicts that can slow or hinder the flattening of the globe should be treated seriously.

Thomas Friedman in his work *The World is Flat* (2005) relies on the supply chain of products as a primary solution to global peace. The two cases that have proven that collaboration is significant are those of India and Pakistan, and China and Taiwan. During the preliminary elections held in Taiwan, the candidate who was for pro-China economic ties defeated his ally who was pro-independence, and this was in December 2004. The Taiwanese nationals chose a continuation of a trillion-dollar supply chain with China instead of ruining their economy that had been in a decimated state ever since the declaration of Taiwan’s independence.

Murray Rothbard once stated that “It is not a crime to be ignorant of economics, which is, after all, a specialized discipline. But then, it is irresponsible to have s vociferous and loud opinion on economic subjects while remaining in this state of ignorance” (Horwitz, 2016). Indeed, this describes the next scene with the case of India and Pakistan in 2002. The two countries had armed their troops on the border, and dusting off their nuclear scores was inevitable. The issue at hand was the piece of a place known as Kashmir. In this scenario, economics won the war. India had to think about the impacts of wedging a war with Pakistan or losing its global credibility regarding world business. Every country needs to invest in a stable state, and India had to maintain its stability. The theory of conflict prevention is full of both proponents and opponents, but even at the height of globalization, the world needs peace (Keating, 2014).

The penultimate chapter in *The World Is Flat* is called “The Dell Theory of Conflict Prevention.” It is in this chapter where Friedman deals with future of war in globalized economy (Friedman, 2005). Here he updates the concept of “Golden Arches Theory of Conflict Prevention.” The implication here is that citizens or societies in economically developed countries adequately supported McDonald’s in that the latter lost interest in fighting battles. In his proposal, derived from “The Dell Theory of Conflict Prevention,” in future, countries will hesitate the risk of their position in the global supply chain through the fight of unnecessary wars. Consequently, Friedman asserts that the flat world will impact parties directly in the competition for work opportunities around the world (Friedman, 2013). The only concern is whether the geopolitical consequences of this economic reality can engender peace or additional conflict.

The validity of collaboration is that two countries that comprise a part of a significant supply chain, like MacDonald’s or Dell, will never live to fight each other since they constitute a part of the same world supply chain. Even people who are embedded in a mega global supply chain can never desire to fight old-time wars. All people from the supply chain countries just want to make in-time delivery of supply chain goods to continue their lives. The globe is experiencing tough economic times, and this has raised life expectations, hence, the logic of peace through collaboration is very significant. Moreover, any prolonged upheaval within regions including East Asia can have a substantial chilling effect on the chains of investments that are found there. The most significant things in this globe during this era are collaboration and stability.

The main function of collaboration of supply chains is to bring sustainability and prosperity. South Korea represents a perfect example where these two concepts are built. Consequently, they are growing in Japan, Thailand, China, and Taiwan. With the global supply chains that exist between them, they can experience something bigger beyond their business dealings. Indeed, a collaboration between these countries can aid to erase deep feelings that have been existing from time memorial. The best case is the present historical differences that exist between Japan and China. Collaboration has aided the two countries to coexist as strong economies simultaneously.

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