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MATIC NUMBER: 18/SMS04/067

DATE: 30 MAY 2020

Question:

1. How is the portrayal of the Global South by the Global North news Organizations/Media? (You can get news stories online to support your claim)

The Global North, right from the beginning of time has always portrayed the Global South in a negative light. There is an unequal flow of information, a lot of information flows from the global north to the global South while little bits of information is taken from the global south. This way, they keep the power to twist the narrative to their own advantage. This has affected how people in the Global North view the people in the Global South. The type of information that is being put out about the Global North are in a more positive light, like scientific and technological development, infrastructural development, lead power in the world economy, etc. When things are reported about the Global South, it is not just negative but sometimes downright derogatory, ignoring our little advancements and focusing on negative things. These news consist of wars, coups, farming, disease, hunger, poverty, just to name a few. The New World Information and Communication Order (NWICO) served as an enabler to stifling information and served as a barrier for the free flow of information.

This is plainly a form of media imperialism. Media imperialism is a situation whereby the global north through their international news agencies and media conglomerates continuously disseminates their cultural values to the global South without reciprocating/doing the same to the global north. The absence of reciprocating of media influence by the affected country brings both elements of cultural invasion by another power and the elements of imbalance of power resources between the countries concerned. This imbalance hereby justifies the use of the word ‘Imperialism’. Even in this period where a lot of changes have happened which should have changed the narrative, we still have such news being reported. Examples are:

Independent:

YOU CANT IMAGINE WHAT’S COMING IN BANGLADESH AND SIERRA LEONE

As Sierra Leone reports it has just 13 ventilators to serve an entire nation, this pandemic is exposing deep and dangerous inequalities that spread right across our world.

UNDP:

# COVID-19: Looming crisis in developing countries threatens to devastate economies and ramp up inequality

The Guardian

# **Life is getting better for world’s poorest – but children bear greatest burden**

India and Bangladesh drive progress but UN study identifies vast inequalities between countries and among poor

BBC News

**The world is experiencing a sharp deterioration in economic performance, due to the continuing coronavirus pandemic.**

Developing countries are certain to be hit hard by what the International Monetary Fund, and others, warn will be [**the worst downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s**](https://blogs.imf.org/2020/04/14/the-great-lockdown-worst-economic-downturn-since-the-great-depression/) .

The New York Times

# *Poor Countries Face a Debt Crisis ‘Unlike Anything We Have Seen’*

Dozens of countries that borrowed from private investors have debt payments coming due as their economies have crashed because of the coronavirus.

1. What are the challenges a foreign correspondent is likely to face in these times, especially with Corona Virus, Racism and all other Fears in view? Proffer the solutions you think will overcome the challenges you raise.

Proper Healthcare/Insurance:

With the current pandemic going on, and economies slowly going into recession, it is not certain how many people will afford proper healthcare should they get infected with the virus. Foreign correspondents are unfortunately going to be affected by this, different countries healthcare system differs so it is likely that some systems might have ways of providing and caring for them while others have nothing set in place. The news organizations should work with their governments in providing optimum healthcare for their workers to avoid putting their reporters at risk.

Custom of Operation/Reduced Standard of Living:

In these hard economic time, people have lost their jobs and some have had their pays slashed into half and some are paid 20 percent of their salaries. Some news agencies have had to recall foreign correspondents because of the economic meltdown. With traveling not being an option considering the Corona virus, it has left many people, foreign correspondents included with very little options. There is a definite cut down in purchasing of items and only things necessary to survive are being purchased. This is a difficult time for any foreign correspondent across the world. The news organizations foreign correspondents work with, should provide basic necessities such as food stuff in order to sustain their reporters.

Unjust Profiling:

With police brutality in the rise all over the world, this can happen to just about any foreigner. Even before speaking up to identify self as a foreign correspondent, the policemen might have already profiled the reporter unjustly. Foreign correspondents should have a means of identification at all tines to avoid such. Keeping it at close reach should also be paramount as the policemen might see withdrawal of identification card as a withdrawal of weapon.

Cultural Issues:

With the recent pandemic people’s cultures have been affected with a change on how people live in order to curb the pandemic. It is very important for a foreign correspondent to learn about the people’s culture and also the changes made at this time due to the virus. This will help the foreign correspondents adhere to rules and also stay on the safe/healthy side.

Political Issues:

The corona virus has not just brought about health issues worldwide but also political issues. With conspiracy theories about a bio war brought on by the Chinese government, it is important to know the policies of the country in which the foreign correspondents reside in concerning an affected country, in this case, that would be China. Many countries are putting a hold on importation and travels from that country. The news organizations should keep themselves updated on developments and inform its foreign correspondents so they will know how to adhere to the rules/policies.

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