

by D.J Poseur

Poverty Awaits!

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY





Of the Developing World (MUSIC COMPILATION)

16. B&S, normally effusive with sensitivity and empathy, offer a rhetorical question for the developed world as well as a segway into the next song

17. Dearly departed Mr. Zappa was not one to mince words, and research suggests that anti-prostitution efforts in the developing world treats symptoms ineffectively, without addressing the underlying causes of poverty

18. The past two decades have been a highly profitable for global capitalists, in this third wave of globalization. Modest Mouse even sold out onto a big record label. For others, the good times of the 21st century have been little more than an attractively packaged death sentence. Oh well.

19. The Superfurry Animals hail from Wales and hail to the chief executive officers of the world, "The Man" holding us back and down on a global scale.

20. In another less than subtle haranguing of the global economy, the near-orchestral Head of Femur (named for 1950's television rule of not filming Elvis Presley below this point) makes a cogent call for the abolition of all world currencies in favor of a socialist world system of global breadlines and shoddily manufactured widgets on barren shelves, assembled in hopelessly corrupt, inefficient state-owned factories.

21. Always best to end with the grittily hopeful Roots Manuva, an inspiration to all those who can make out a word he's saying.

Faceless Something of a sequel to the International Politics Mix, this tuneful IPE treatise is a departure on two important fronts: there simply aren't a lot of songs being written (painfully earnest protest songs aside) about monetary policy or the intricacies of the Heckscher-Olin theorem of labor and capital mobility. The few this DJ knows of singing specifically about the IMF or trade are on the previous mix, which was more topical, but didn't exactly congeal as a musical whole. Thus, more effort was made to make this listenable from start to finish, though at the expense of not sticking strictly to the syllabus (and in fact just railing repeatedly on poverty and failure...be thankful it didn't just end up songs about drugs). Listeners averse to experimentation or electronics will find the second portion more palatable, as many a rollicking rock and roll chorus (and the occasional cuss word) is guaranteed!

People

Poverty are

Though Mr. Chomsky isn't exactly appreciated in American political science departments, he does have an opinion or two about the relationship between the developed and developing world. This song might be considered "post-rock".

2. For non-hispanohablantes, the man in the song wants peace, to construct a better life for the pueblo, and to be independent. No IPE mix would be complete without a quasi-Argentinian tango (an electronic tango made by foreigner at that), as the case par excellence of either predatory lending or deadbeat governments in the developing world in need of bailouts

3. Surely the traditional crafts, agricultural products, and natural resources of developing countries, when traded in the international market, are their ticket out of poverty and into prosperity! Nevermind so-called "international divisions of labor"-just keep tolling away on those textiles, and one day you too could be a fashion designer. Even if the average cow in the EU is subsidized \$2 a day, that's no reason to be sour on non-tariff barriers in the developed world!

4. Not to be racist or anything, but white people are rich and excessive melanin in the skin is all that's holding the rest of the world back. At least Indians think so. Asian Dub Foundation is one of the more danceable bands out there whose music can double as political "riot porn". "There is no such thing as illegal immigrants-only illegal governments."

5. The Notwist, of Germany, gives us a song which can either serve as a blunt metaphor for dependency theory (as espoused by Faletto and Cardoso) or conjure a mental image of the negotiating room/table for the unending Doha round of the WTO, at which developing countries are supposed to have more influence. Still waiting on that one.

6. Speaking of lawyers in a room of labyrinthine legalese, what happens when countries which have asked international financial institutions for developmental assistance are unable to live up to their side of the deal⁶. The Starlight Mints have shown conclusively that LDC's are whistling in the dark in these situations, if able to field a legal team at all, certain to pale in comparison with the adversarial core-country litigators across the table.

7. Firewater's none-too-chipper ditty is nonetheless catchy and rich with wordplay. The hell/heaven themes tack closely to Alice Amaden's polemic metaphor in her book on the developing/developed world divide. When your creditors come acollectin', sing them the chorus.

8. By the time LDC's know what they've signed up for, it's already too late, say the ever-hip Walkmen. Nothing to do then but pen a whimsically remorseful piano ballad.

9. Is there any way out of debt². Not if the UK has anything to say about it (clearly the USA is blameless). French Kicks could try to be a bit more political/applicable to the class with their lyrics, but you get the picture.

10. As one's currency declines in value, due to capital flight/asset stripping or just plain inflation, one might rightly say that the fall doesn't hurt until one can't buy things anymo

11. From the Nordic folksters with a penchant for oxymoronically-phrased album titles, comes a remixed pep talk for es which find themselves down in the economic dumps. So turn that frown upside down, global South!

12. Cloud Cult is a MN band residing and recording on a self-sufficient organic farm with abundant solar panels. They and to be the second se

13. Certain countries, primarily in Asia, have chosen to go against the advice of IFI's and follow a development model of export-led growth (which worked like a dandy when paired with robust global demand), rather than import substitution, though in both cases state governments are far more involved in the economy than had been advised under the liberal prescriptions of the Washington Consensus. Soulwax is from Belgium, which doesn't have the best colonial legacy in the developing world.

14. Would the chorus have just repeated the title over and over again, this would've gone better coming from the spoke: men of IFI's to LDC governments, but instead it provides yet even more encouragement for economic i perhaps a note of caution not to be assassinated, like this popular Scottish dance-rock band's namesake ent for economic self-help. And

15. Representing the resource curse comes this fast-paced rocker that's sure to get any national economy up and running again. Whether natural resources are a boon or a curse, providing a conventiont excuss for underdevelopment of other economic sectors and quite possibly war, remains a cottage industry for empirical inquiry, and surely significant/conclu-sive/non-contradictory statistics are right around the corner to settle this matter.