

Land Administration and Globalization



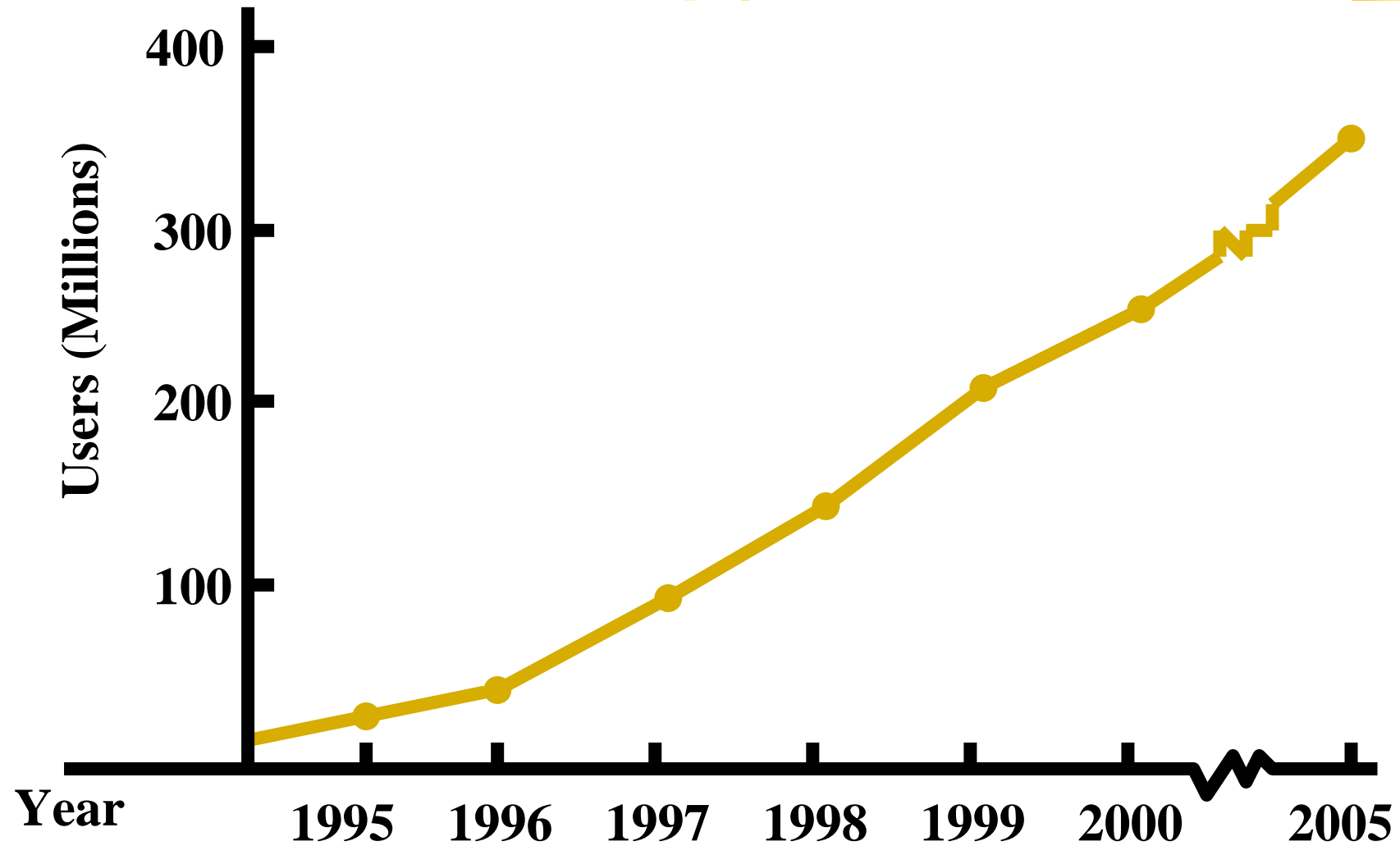
John McLaughlin

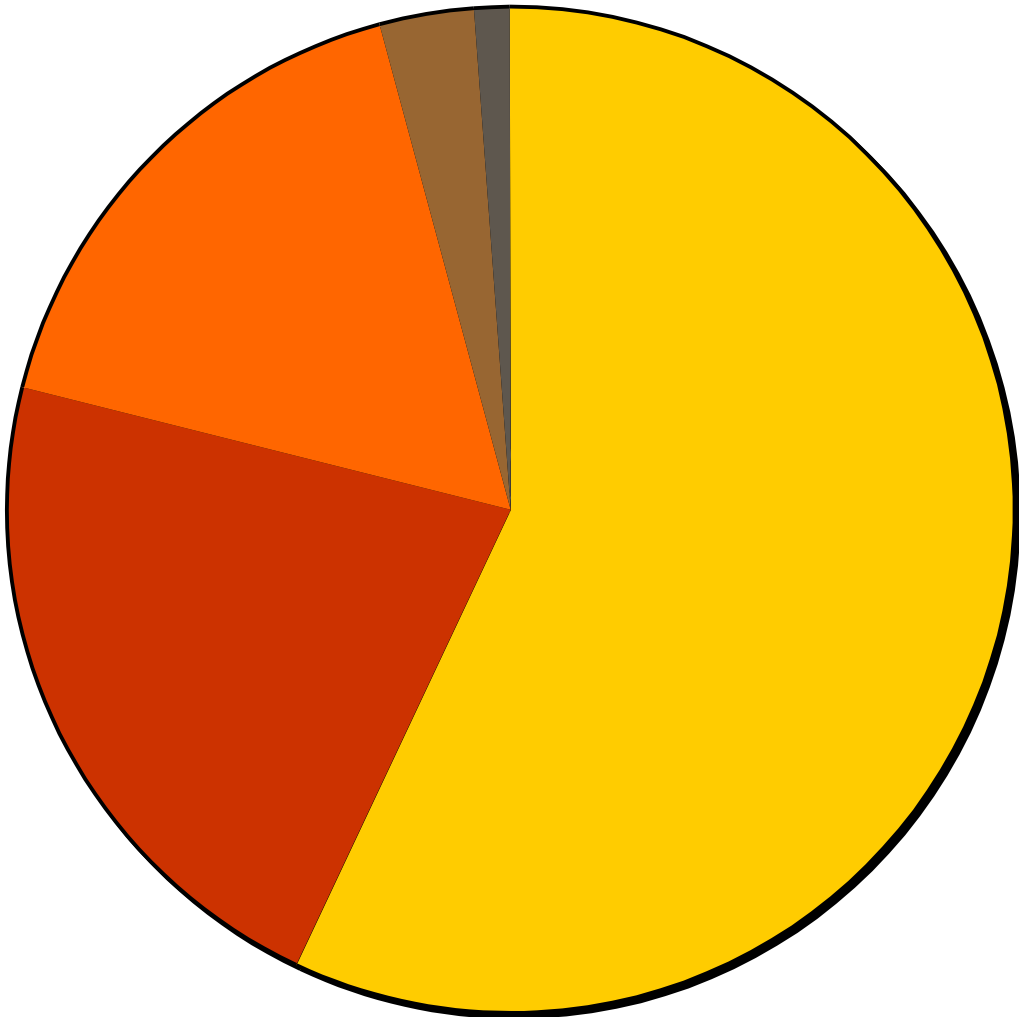
Perspectives on Globalization



- Evolution of a shared infrastructure for global development and integration.
- Advancing the objective of a market-driven global economy.
- Towards a global society.

Internet Traffic





■ North America ...
57%

■ Europe.....
21.75

■ Asia
17%


■ South America ..
3%


■ Other
1.3%

Global Economy



- Trend towards globalization as evidenced in the pattern of sustained growth in world trade and investment flows.
- Modern origins traced to the postwar creation of a set of international institutions to promote free trade, full employment and economic stability and to regulate international finance.

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- Postwar growth in the world economy - historically unprecedented rates (between 1950 and 1990 real output increased fivefold).
 - International flows of capital and technology have become significantly more important than flows of goods as determinants of economic returns.




“The system can be envisaged as a gigantic circulatory system, sucking capital into the financial markets and institutions at the center and then pumping it out to the periphery, either directly in the form of credits and portfolio investments or directly through multinational corporations.”


George Soros

Growing Concerns



- Recent financial crises and responses (e.g. arguments for capital controls).
- Providing meaningful and long lasting support for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries.
 - Coping with the debt trap: too many developing countries unable to maintain interest payments, forced to curtail investment and imports.


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- More generally, the whole issue of providing effective development aid: A trillion \$ in aid. “Yet countless studies have failed to find a link between aid and faster economic growth”.


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- While global economic integration is clearly accelerating, it is not the only reality. Perhaps as many as eighty percent of the approximately six billion people in the world still live outside global consumer networks.

Towards a Global Society



- Triumph of liberal capitalist democracy as the end of history.
- The “information / knowledge society”, transforming:
 - The forces of production, especially changes wrought on by computer and telecommunications.
 - The relations of production, especially changes in the organization of work.
 - Culture, especially the link between image and reality.

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- “Yet technology is merely accelerating, rather than causing these long-trends. And the information society is still directed by the traditional power and profit goals of political and economic elites.”

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- Concerns over the survival of national cultures and the unfairness of rapid change, even about the nature of political and cultural sovereignty.

Globalitarian




- “Regimes which admit no other policy than a market driven one, subordinate the social rights of citizens to the competitive ethos, and hand over to financial markets complete control of the activities of dominated societies.”

Ignacio Ramonet

Impact on Land Administration



- Dominant global ideology of the past decade placing special emphasis on the importance of institutions such as property to both economic and social development.



■ Moving well beyond the land reform focus of the 1970s and early 1980s, current focus on:

- Property formalization.
- The relationship of property systems to other key infrastructure developments.
- The relationships to the financial markets (including the securitization of assets in both real and personal property) very much in tune with the globalization agenda.

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- Flow of private capital increasingly contributing to renewed interest in property institutions (including new strategies for joint public/private financing of property infrastructure).
 - Growing recognition of the potential role of property in advancing a global social development agenda, based around notions of the civic society a la Putnam and the concepts of property-owning democracy a la Rawls.



■ Witnessing:

- Widespread introduction of common technologies.
- Standards and business processes leading towards a common property infrastructure.
- Increasingly dictated by the needs of business customers, both local and foreign and less by the jurisdiction-specific requirements of the property professions.

Concerns about:



- The relationships of the property to the aspirations of the aboriginals and women.
- Role of property in furthering environmental goals.
- “Americanization” of the global agenda (as evidenced by the impact GPS technology has had on the surveying profession and the professional terror accompanying the advance of the title insurance concept).