Social justice in globalization: redistribution, recognition, and participation

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Focusing on the widespread politicization of culture, especially on struggles for recognition, the author identifies three problems that pose a threat to social justice in globalization: the reification of collective identities, the displacement of redistribution by recognition, and the fact that different kinds of struggles are misframing transnational processes.

The text discusses three conceptual strategies for defusing the risks derived from these problems, all three rooted in emerging features of globalization. To counter the threat of reification, the author proposes a “status” conception of recognition that does not lead to identity politics. To counter the threat of displacement, she proposes a two-dimensional conception of justice, which encompasses not only recognition but also distribution. To counter the threat of misframing, she proposes a multi-tiered conception of sovereignty that decenters the national frame.

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