

Abstract

Relevance of the State

An emerging issue for policy making is the relevance of the State. Technology has altered the landscape of individual reach; interconnectedness of modern economy is redefining the composition of collective interests; transnational gains and threats are reminders of the bigger picture. We live in parallel worlds. In some worlds, physicality defines existence; in others, defying physicality is the norm. We are increasingly individualistic and yet bound by common fate at the same time. States are still the main units of organised civilisation. The balancing of power between states and non-state actors will determine whether we continue to live in an organized civilisation or anarchy.