The Geopolitics of Information

In the early years after the Second World War, the globe seemed to divide between 'East' and 'West', corresponding to the great ideological and economic divisions between the socialist-and capitalist-leaning nations.

North and South

In later decades, however, it became clear that another great divide was being superimposed upon this, a divide between 'North' and 'South', between the prosperous developing nations and the struggling developing nations of former empires.

In the field of Information

In more recent times, a parallel pressure has been exerted in the field of information. Non-Western countries have accused the West of cultural domination through its control of the major newscollecting resources of the world, through the flow of its cultural products across the world, and through the financial power of its advertising agencies, its international newspaper chains, its newsprint companies and its hold over the technology on which broadcasting, the internet and much else depend.

Freedom

Third World countries have been heaping blame upon the Western media. However, the debate has largely been held between governments, rather than between governments and journalists. Freedom is something that journalists need, everywhere. They require freedom from restraints of both the market-place and government; both lead towards the distortion of information.

Freedom, in the flow of Information

Thus, those who cry for 'balance' in the world flow of information have come to aid the processes by which information in some societies is deliberately constrained, while those who cry for 'freedom' in the flow of information may well, in certain market conditions, be aiding the processes which lead to distortion and injustice. It is a double crisis, intractable both in doctrine and in management.

Problem of International Domination

Initially, the purpose of this site was to describe the various lines along which the controversy has been growing and point out some possible future points of synthesis or agreement. I have learned that is daunting task and one that is complicated by numerous issues. This problem is but one aspect of the whole problem of international domination, inequality and dependence.

Governmental Control

Thus, the site currently contains links to articles and sites regarding censorship, governmental control and globalization (among others).