It examines how this world scientific system and national reflections of it have influenced a wide variety of institutional spheres—the economy, political systems, human rights, environmentalism, and organizational reforms. The authors argue that the triumph of science across social domains and around the world is due to its institutionalized cultural authority rather than to its instrumental utility for societies or for their dominant elites. Thus, following the Stanford approach to institutional theory in sociology, the book emphasizes the symbolic or religious role science plays in the modern world. From the Back Cover. This book presents empirical studies of the rise, expansion, and influence of scientific discourse and organization throughout the world, over the past century. Using quantitative cross-national Synthesizing decades of sociological work at Stanford University on the development of the modern nation-state system since World War II, contributors argue that striking similarities increasingly characterize nation-state structures and policies, suggesting that countries across different domains are following the same models or scripts of what a nation-state ought to be. Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law is housed in the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. Search form. Research. Influences of globalization are multi-dimensional, having large social, economic, and political implications. A massive spread of education and of Western-oriented norms of learning at all levels in the twentieth century and the consequences of widely available schooling are a large part of the globalization process. With regard to the role of schools, globalization has become a major topic of study, especially in the field of comparative education, which applies historiographic and social scientific theories and methods to international issues of education. Globalization Theory. Globalization