

We were honored to have Aj. Anin Aroonruengsawat as our special lecturer for the topic of International Trade and Environment. The lecture revolved around how economics is related to human activity and is causing global warming issues from emissions of greenhouse gases and its impacts. The lecturer gave real-life recent examples such as during the pandemic (COVID-19), the environmental conditions in many countries have improved. He explained that this was due to a reduction of economic activities during the phrase, therefore, less pollution is being produced. The main theory is that due to an increasing amount of international trade, businesses around the world rely on millions of ships and cargos to export their products. These transporters are driven by burning bunks of fuel, which all together, releases a large amount of CO₂ into the atmosphere. The lecturer clearly illustrated this theory through an animated map that depicts the increasing trading paths by ships throughout the years along with the rising number of CO₂ in the air. This is an intergenerational problem as the greenhouse gases do not cause adverse impacts instantly, but will do in the next generation of the population. The increasing trend in economic activity is due to the high growth rate tend as the value of exports rises as a result of globalization. People in many countries rely less on domestic products and buy from exports instead. Therefore, countries produce comparative advantage products to export, promoting free trade agreements.

There are arguments about whether free trade is good or bad for the environment. In my opinion, I believe that there are more aversive effects than benefits. It is true that free trade can have a positive impact on improving the environment as liberalization countries can have more access to cleaner technologies such as importing more developed and efficient machines. Furthermore, it also benefits the economy side more as free trade agreements allow countries to produce in which they have a competitive advantage and have greater income. However, free trade will be aversive to the environment in promoting the expansion of polluting industries in encouraging these industries to locate in countries with a lack of

environmental regulations, especially in developing countries. Some country's competitive advantage's products are dirty goods which will cause pollution when produced, in which free trade will encourage demands for these products especially because they may be cheaper. It is true that some people may prefer more environmentally friendly products, but more people prefer products that are cheaper which include those that are manufactured at a lower cost which includes those industries that are pollutive as they use cheaper fuel which emits more greenhouse gases.

Furthermore, economic theories of international trade such as the Heckscher-Ohlin theorem may lead to the destruction of the environment. This is because the theory states that suggests that countries that are abundant with environmental resources should specialize on the intensive production and export of environmentally damaging goods especially in countries that lack environmental regulations. This further supports the idea that economic activities have a large impact on worsening the environment. The relationship between economic growth and environmental qualities can be illustrated on an Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC). The model of the inverted U shape implies that at early stages of industrialization, relatively high pollution levels occur when growth is a priority. This is because firms focus only on production without environmental controls are lenient or nonexistent. However, after more advanced stages of development, there is a greater concern for environmental quality, reinforcing environmental regulations and greener technologies are developed. Therefore more developed countries are more likely to have lower than developing countries.

Overall, the special lecturer for this topic is very clear in explaining the details in the content. The graphs he gathered to illustrate in the presentation further clarifies the ideas that he is describing along with videos for us to watch later for more information. Moreover, he used real-world recent examples that the students are likely to know of to demonstrate his point. Therefore, I truly enjoyed how he gave the lecture in this presentation.

We were honored to have Aj. Nessara Sukpanich as our special lecturer for the topic of Economics of Multinational Enterprises. The lecture made me understand about companies that run business in many countries and foreign direct investment and more understand strategic of investor understand about portfolio investment understand of my type of foreign direct investment (FDI) Such as Base on direction of investment , activity , modes of entry , nationality , motive and Base on motives have minor types that is a natural resource-seeking , market-seeking , efficiency-seeking , strategic asset-seeking and then after I well known about type of foreign direct investment (FDI) I more understand about determinants of foreign direct investment (FDI) that in many part get benefits and advantages first ownership (O advantages) second location (L advantages) third internalization (I advantages) forth firm-specific firm have advantages that they gain knowledge they better in managing capability and better in managerial capability. Lastly country-specific advantages (CSAs) include natural market factor endowments , factor price , government regulations and market access and I more understand about resource allocation , technology transfer , income distribution , trade , economic development in my country

Aj. Nessara Sukpanich show the case study about FDI in Lao in 2000 – 2015 that made me more understand and separate about actual FDI and approved FDI in Lao. That show better in many factor in country such as Agriculture sector , Industry sector , Service Sector , Wood industry , Mining , Electricity generation , Garment , Construction , Telecom , Service and etc. That is First case study that show the different of actual FDI and Approved FDI and Then Ajarn show Approved FDI by country the made me understand in bigger scale in country they are different from another country but mostly after approved FDI many sectors in many country is better. The FDI can show inflows in many country. Motives of FDI in this case study. First Natural resource-seeking such as mining and electricity generation. Second

Market-seeking this section separate in three sections First Domestic market such as service sectors and construction. Second Regional-seeking such as electricity export from Lao to neighboring countries such as Thailand and Vietnam. Lastly Other regions market such as agricultural sectors. And Motives of FDI in Lao PDR. First Efficiency-seeking that make low labor cost in Lao PDR Corporation in the region brings about efficient regional production supply chain such as Toyota and coca-cola. Second Strategic-asset seeking Lao has better local networking .

Ajarn Nessara Sukpanich show the example in map of Lao PDR such as Xyaburi Hydropower in Lao PDR , Coffee plantation in Lao PDR and Zipline business in Lao PDR. Ajarn Nessara Sukpanich make me more understand by show the example not only Lao PDR but also has Wuttisak Clinic in Vientiane and Black Canyon in Vientiane

Host country positive factors such as rich natural resources , political stability , high level of economic growth and low labor cost , exchange rate. But Negative factors is small market size , limited amount of labor , shortage of labor , investment regulations , lack of some necessary technology and institutions have not been developed enough. Ajarn show graph of CLMV labor force (LF) , Deposit rate and Lending rate in Lao PDR , Global Competitive index (GCI) , Ease of doing business and Obstacles of doing business in Lao PDR to make student more understand about FDI and PDR

Push factors Ajarn show information of many country that student have to know such as China , Vietnam and Thailand. Lastly Firm Specific Advantages , some MNEs may have technology advantage or managing capability , MNEs with high investment experience in the region , Large state-owned MNEs or large private MNEs have economics of scale advantage and Well-known MNEs in the region have advantage in term of their brand recognition