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International trade, economic transactions that are made between countries. Among the items commonly traded are consumer goods, such as television sets and clothing; capital goods, such as machinery; and raw materials and food. Learn more about international trade in this article.  

**Historical overview.** The barter of goods or services among different peoples is an age-old practice, probably as old as human history. International trade, however, refers specifically to an exchange between members of different nations, and accounts and explanations of such trade begin (despite fragmentary earlier discussion) only with the rise of the modern nation-state at the close of the European Middle Ages. Direct economical advantage of foreign trade. Therefore, international trade by enabling better and more efficient utilisation of the resources of a country increases its real national income and hence has a growth-promoting effect. 

**Beneficial Effect # 2. Widening of Market and Raising Productivity:** It is argued that the productivity gains arising out of extension of market is a consequence of foreign trade. Similarly Prof. Hicks opines, "Foreign trade accelerates the rate of economic development of underdeveloped countries. They get opportunities for improved techniques. There is expansion in the size of market."

**International Trade and Development.**

**Lecturer: Roman Zakharenko.**

1. **Course description.** The aim of the course is to introduce students to various aspects of modern theories of trade and development. The first part of the course discusses factors affecting development of societies in the very long run, e.g. centuries or even millennia. The next part is on theories of human culture and social norms: what shapes these norms, and how they affect economic development. 

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