

How to comment on a cartoon ?

Original topic :

Globalization and standards of living.

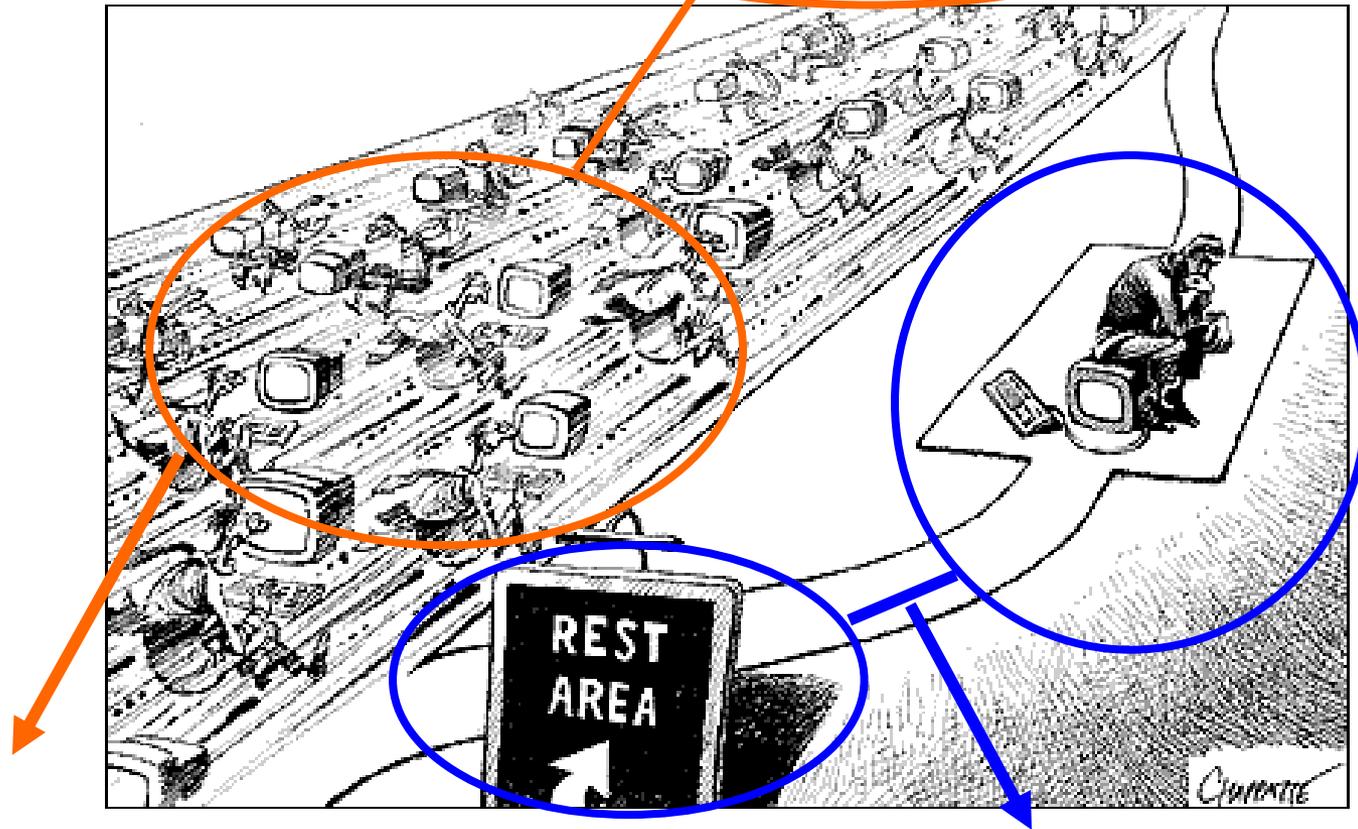


Source :

*The Internet
superhighways*, by Patrick
Chapatte, L'Hebdo.

The key idea of the source :

The Internet superhighways :



Globalization is :
more exchanges/trade,
better standards of
living...

... but this only concerns a
part of world societies, while
others undergo this situation.

Description of data :

Density

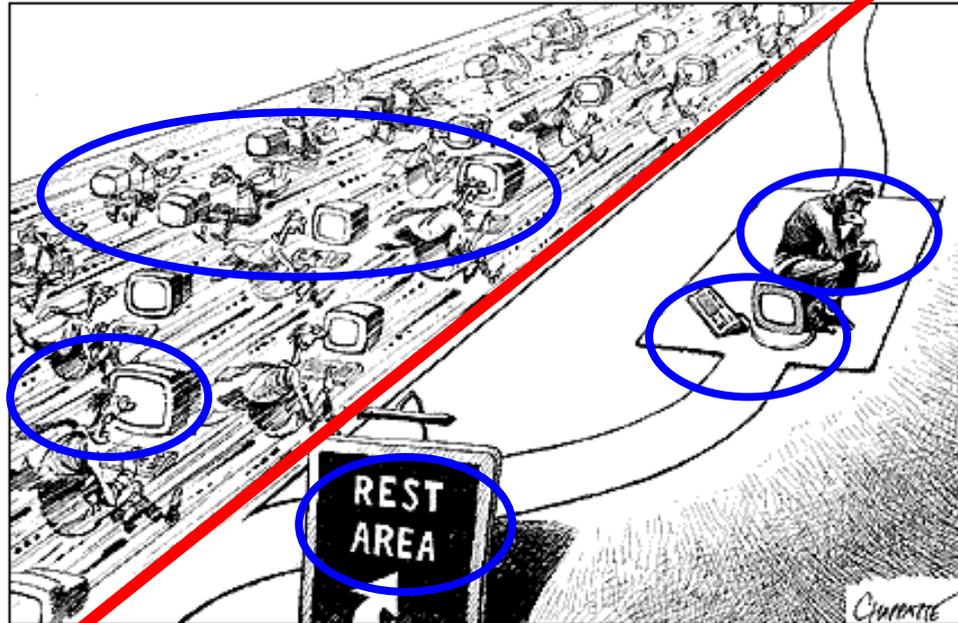
Rapidity, velocity

Huge and fast exchanges

Staff members hypnotized by computer screens

Businessmen running on their side, for their own business

A virtual highway (no car)
= the Internet is a movement of digital data via satellites or submarine cables



Emptiness

Peaceful ? Quiet,
but isolated in fact
(*rest area*)

Exclusion, excluded

Computer doesn't
work

Black man : Sub
Saharan African
populations

Dark coloured
features,
enlightened by a
bright light

Specific notions & vocabulary to use :

Net economy

Nasdaq

Decision-making centres

Urban impulse centres

World oligopoly

World stock exchanges, continuously connected : the round / ring of capital movement

Tertiary economy



Not integrated peripheries

Enclosed peripheries

Sub-Saharan Africa suggested, by extension the **enclosed regions of globalization**

Digital divide

Comments, conclusions to draw :

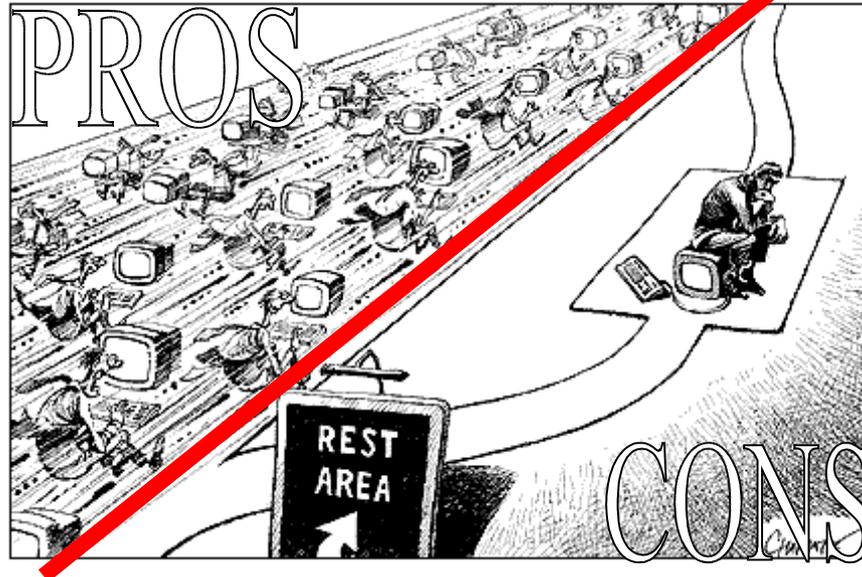
The Internet and the digital revolution changed and boosted the world economy.

Exchanges are eased, it's a real means of transportation (of data, services, in tertiary economies).

Used for capital movement, etc.

Thus, it created jobs, employment, the « **net economy** ».

Also a progress as it emphasizes / improves standards of living: more leisure time to surf on the web, more communication, more comfort, more job opportunities, etc.



→ Better Standards of living ?

Economic discrepancies remain huge ; access to an average HDI is still a utopy for a third of the world population.

The world's wealth is not evenly shared.

= it stresses a quite selective spatial economic organisation.

Development of the Internet stresses deep social and economic discrepancies, which globalization has not erased.

The gap is here quite visible : profitability and logic of limited profit, ban many people from the decision-making process.

The North / South divide, even though relative, is clear for the enclosed areas, esp. Sub-saharan Africa, in which both amenities (Internet and transportation facilities) and economic subsidies (to finance them) really lack.

Many people stay apart from the world development, which benefits to an elite.