

Contents

Introduction. The World as a Geographical Object	xi
Anne-Cécile OTT, Clarisse DIDELON-LOISEAU and Hugo CUPRI	
 Chapter 1. The Worlds of French Geography	1
Clarisse DIDELON-LOISEAU and Nolwenn Azilis RIGOLLET	
1.1. The world as an ecumene.	2
1.1.1. Compiling and organizing knowledge about Earth's space	2
1.1.2. A world explored and appropriated and the "interconnectedness" of the world	3
1.2. The world as a space shaped by human activities	5
1.2.1. The economic globalization space	5
1.2.2. The "world-system", a key concept in the emergence of World thought	7
1.2.3. The world of "posts": still an economic world	8
1.3. The World: a challenge for geography	11
1.3.1. From international to transnational: the future of states	11
1.3.2. Questions about the nature of the World	12
1.4. Conclusion	17
1.5. References	18

Chapter 2. Planetarization, a Planetary Shift in a Globalized World. 23

Magali REGHEZZA-ZITT

2.1. Introduction.	23
2.2. The globe and the Earth: the denaturalization of the world.	25
2.2.1. The globe and the world map	25
2.2.2. A denaturalized world	27
2.3. The globe and the planet: bringing nature back into our understanding of the World	28
2.3.1. Views and images of the Blue Marble: the birth of a “pop icon”	28
2.3.2. The renaturalization of the World	29
2.4. From the Earth’s endless interconnectedness to the planet’s finitude	30
2.4.1. “Le temps du monde fini commence”	30
2.4.2. Global crisis, global risk: humanity, a vulnerable species	32
2.5. Divisions of a planetarized World	34
2.5.1. The geographer’s scissors: the “natural” region	34
2.5.2. From natural regionalization to the political, economic and cultural regionalization of the world	36
2.5.3. The regionalization of the world and challenges of the planetary shift and the Anthropocene: ecological unity as an optimum territorial solution	37
2.6. Conclusion	40
2.7. References	40

Chapter 3. Representing the World: Vernacular Representations of Global Space 45

Anne-Cécile OTT and Clarisse DIDELON-LOISEAU

3.1. Introduction.	45
3.2. Analyzing representations of the world as a “product”	49
3.2.1. Distortion and ignorance of the world	49
3.2.2. Appreciation or depreciation of spaces around the world	52
3.2.3. Collective representations as reflections and drivers of global power relations	54
3.2.4. Representations of the World as a whole: from the World to the planet	55

3.3. Analyzing spatial representations as a process	56
3.3.1. Are representations most often analyzed as simple products? . . .	56
3.3.2. Exploring (individual) representations of the world as social constructs.	59
3.3.3. “Worldmaking”: the role of socialization activities and the example of school	60
3.4. Conclusion	62
3.5. References	64

Chapter 4. The Origins of the Modern Atlas: How to Divide the World and Organize It?

Jean-Marc BESSE

4.1. The atlas as an organized space	73
4.2. Geographical order: a combination of two approaches	75
4.3. The organization of places in the atlas	77
4.4. The editing process	81
4.5. The atlas and the theaters of knowledge	83
4.6. References	86

Chapter 5. Describing, Appropriating and Dividing the Political World (around 1890–1945).

Hugo CUPRI

5.1. Introduction.	91
5.2. World divisions: a distorted reflection of the Earth	93
5.2.1. A world to discover and share	93
5.2.2. A world that has become “political”	95
5.3. The world as a theater of power.	98
5.3.1. A large-scale global “game”	98
5.3.2. Toward a geography of “global positions”	100
5.4. The world through its political figures (from around 1890 to around 1940).	102
5.4.1. Representing the empire and its dominance over and within the world.	102
5.4.2. The nation-state as a universal division	106
5.4.3. The nation and its parts: a reflection of global power.	108
5.5. The “great divide”: theories and speculations on powers	109
5.5.1. Geometric divisions	109

5.5.2. From the pivotal model to a global empire: the Heartland	109
5.5.3. Geopolitik: its inspirations and models	110
5.6. Conclusion	111
5.7. References	111

Chapter 6. Development and the North–South Divide:

A Division between Disruption and Continuity 115

Géraud MAGRIN

6.1. Development or the power of ambiguous terminology	117
6.1.1. Words about development	117
6.1.2. Two analytical models and a dead end	119
6.2. The impossible classification	121
6.2.1. The increasing complexity of categories	121
6.2.2. To emerge or not to emerge: a new frontier in development? . . .	124
6.2.3. The challenges of the North–South divide	125
6.3. Geography and unequal development	128
6.3.1. The different eras of French geography’s exploration of the tropical world	128
6.3.2. Postcolonial perspective	129
6.3.3. Tropicality: the comeback	131
6.4. Conclusion	133
6.5. References	134

Chapter 7. Five Hundred Years of Circumnavigations and the Imaginary of the World. 139

Clarisse DIDELON-LOISEAU

7.1. A corpus of remarkable circumnavigations	141
7.1.1. Compilation of the corpus	141
7.1.2. Description of round-the-world journeys and types of relation to the world	144
7.2. States conquering the world: the World as a space for the manifestation of rivalries between states	148
7.2.1. States: from colonial appropriation to the assertion of power . . .	148
7.2.2. The World as an affirmation of state power	150
7.2.3. From “universal” scientific objectives to “global” objectives? . . .	151

7.3. From the control of trade routes to the use of the World as an advertising space	153
7.3.1. From companies that serve as the “state’s commercial wings”	153
7.3.2. . . . To private entrepreneurs	154
7.4. How individuals use the World	155
7.4.1. The world “for me”: learning and enjoying oneself	155
7.4.2. The World as a challenge	157
7.5. Women and the World	160
7.6. Conclusion	162
7.7. References	163

Chapter 8. The Digital Space and the Emergence of a Pluralistic World 165

Amaël CATTARUZZA

8.1. Values and political projects at the core of digital technologies	168
8.1.1. Datafication and networking: representations at the roots of digital technology	169
8.2. Different geopolitical actors for different digital globalization projects	173
8.2.1. The digital space as an “exchange network”: the liberal imaginary and its limits	175
8.2.2. Alternative “digital globalization” projects	183
8.3. Conclusion	188
8.4. References	190

Chapter 9. In Search of Brave New Worlds: Geoethical Ideas and Global Geopolitics 193

Arnaud BRENNETOT

9.1. Brave new worlds, an ideal revived by globalization	193
9.2. Analyzing RIWs	195
9.2.1. The discursive structuring of RIWs	195
9.2.2. Geomorphology of RIWs	196
9.2.3. The social functions of RIWs	198
9.3. Critical geography and the denunciation of dominant RIWs	199
9.4. The world, an emerging space for public debate	204
9.5. Conclusion	212
9.6. References	213

Chapter 10. A Global Scale of Political Processes and Action 219

Thomas ROSENTHAL

10.1. The World in potentiality or the emergence of global-scale political issues	222
10.1.1. Moving beyond state centrism.	222
10.1.2. The emergence of global political issues	223
10.1.3. The World: a political event?	226
10.2. The World in practice	228
10.2.1. Is the state overwhelmed?	228
10.2.2. Global actors	229
10.3. Prospects.	235
10.4. References.	236

List of Authors 239

Index 241