Bibliography of Work in Modernity and "Third World" Studies

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Fornet, Ambrosio, ed. *Bridging Enigma: Cubans on Cuba.* Special Issue *South Atlantic Quarterly* 96.1 (1997).

Historically, the Third World has been defined through a variety of lenses, each with its own nuance and complexity. The term has been used interchangeably with other labels such as the "South," the "Southern World," or the "Semi-periphery." These labels reflect different interpretations of the global economy and political power dynamics. The First World refers to the industrialized countries of Western Europe and North America, which have traditionally been at the forefront of economic and political development. The Second World, on the other hand, refers to the countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, which were under the influence of the USSR and are now transitioning to market economies.

The term "Third World" was first used in the United Nations in 1950 to describe the countries that were not part of the First or Second World. It was intended to be a neutral term that would not imply any political stance. However, over time, the term has taken on negative connotations, often associated with poverty, underdevelopment, and political instability.

In contemporary discussions, the Third World is often used to refer to countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America that are characterized by their economic dependence on the more developed countries. These countries are often seen as the battleground of global economic and political forces, with the United States and Europe playing prominent roles.


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