



Characteristics of underdevelopment

- ✓ high poverty rates
- ✓ high levels of informal economy
- ✓ hunger and malnutrition
- ✓ agricultural backwardness
- ✓ poor healthcare systems (e.g., health insurance, unemployment insurance, etc.)
- ✓ lack of opportunities for broad sections of the population
- ✓ conflicts and civil wars
- ✓ high foreign debt
- ✓ limited access to clean water and sanitation
- ✓ political instability and corruption
- ✓ weak governance and institutions ("bad governance", "failed states")
- ✓ high unemployment rates
- ✓ vulnerability to climate change
- ✓ high population growth rates
- ✓ cultural barriers to development
- ✓ poor public administration
- ✓ lack of political participation and representation
- ✓ overexploitation of natural resources
- ✓ low level of industrialization
- ✓ limited rule of law
- ✓ poor infrastructure (roads, electricity, etc.)
- ✓ high illiteracy rate
- ✓ exploitation of the environment (deforestation, pollution, etc.)
- ✓ dependence on foreign aid
- ✓ one-sided dependence of the economy on the export of raw materials
- ✓ unequal distribution of wealth and property
- ✓ uncontrolled urbanization and slum formation
- ✓ limited access to financial services
- ✓ lack of environmental regulations and enforcement