North-South-Divide: How developed nations depend on cheap labour and inequality abroad.

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In this study we examine global employment- and inequality footprints. We find that the developed nations in general require more labour to support their lifestyle than they can domestically provide themselves. Hence, in order to support their lifestyle, they are dependent on workers in foreign countries that produce goods and services that form part of the supply chains of consumables bought in developed nations. Developing nations however need to work for their own demands as well as for the demands of the developed nations. This clear master-servant-relationship is further supported by our findings regarding the inequality within different nations. While developed nations often have a higher level of equality across their workforce, developing nations suffer from higher levels of inequality. Through global supply chains, most developed nations indirectly fuel and also benefit from the inequality in developing nations. There are some exceptions: The United States as well as the United Kingdom experience comparable amounts of inequality as their direct and indirect trade partners. Russia has a high within-country inequality nevertheless it has the lowest inequality footprint in the world, which is because of its trade connections with the Commonwealth of Independent States and Europe.