‘Globalization’ has become one of the defining buzzwords of our time—a term that describes a variety of accelerating economic, political, cultural, ideological, and environmental processes that are rapidly altering our experience of the world. Globalization: A Very Short Introduction has been updated with developments in global politics, the global economy, and environmental issues, including the EU fiscal crisis, the rise of robot technology, and West Africa’s Ebola epidemic. Presenting globalization as a process encompassing global, regional, and local aspects of social life, it looks at causes and effects, examines whether it is a new phenomenon, and explores the question whether, ultimately, globalization is a good or a bad thing.