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## Profit At All Cost

Globalization is not happening by chance. It is something that the power centers of the world actively seek and enforce in order to attain commercial, economic and political advantage. The series **Profit At All Cost** illustrates in simple terms what globalization means – an increase in the volume and frequency of the exchange of people, goods, capital and ideas beyond the borders of nation states. It has been made possible by the lowering of barriers that used to protect countries and regions from economic integration. Today everything is measured by the same yardstick, that of Profit At All Cost. And no mercy is shown to those who cannot keep pace.

**02 Matters Hirsute – The Global Exchange of Human Hair** [SD](#)

Human hair grows around one centimeter per month. On any single day, 500 tonnes of hair grows on the heads of the world's population. Nonetheless, it is difficult to meet global demand for toupees, wigs and hairpieces. India is the world's largest supplier of hair; hair traders are based in Spain and Italy; hairpieces are designed in Germany and the United States and made in China. Hair is a hugely profitable business.

**03 For a Bowlful of Rice – How the Financial Crisis Affects Lives** [SD](#)

It was never easy for Indian rice farmer Bodedulla Bhramaiaam to get credit. But the effects of the financial crisis have pushed him and many other farmers to the brink. Some are committing suicide out of sheer desperation, as traders in the world's financial centers find other ways to speculate with food commodities.

**06 A Matter of Life and Death – The Trade in Human Organs** [SD](#)

Thousands of people afflicted by serious illnesses around the world hope their suffering can be alleviated by an organ transplant, but the number of donors is declining. International criminal organ traders earn millions by capitalizing on these patients' dire need. Together with doctors, they operate global networks supplying wealthy patients with organs from the poorest of the poor.

**08 Empty Stomachs and Fat Profits – Hunger Despite Abundance** [VoD](#) [SD](#)

Around one billion of the world's people are hungry right now. Stock market speculation and the cultivation of energy crops are driving up food prices and yield high profits for a select few. One possible solution could be the development of new types of genetically modified rice.

**ECONOMICS**  
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30 MIN.



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**10 Modern Prophets – The Power and the Impotence of the Forecasting Industry**

**SD**

Whether they concern the price of oil, financial markets or population growth – every day sees a whole new set of forecasts and predictions. The forecasting industry makes billions in profits. The forecasters' statements shape public discourse, but the actual worth of their predictions is questionable. Surprisingly simple methods reveal why this is so, and who is capitalizing on the situation.

**11 Poor Despite Wealth – Resources in the Wrong Hands**

**VoD SD**

Gold and cocoa are Ghana's most important exports. But in spite of these valuable resources, the African country still numbers among the poorest in the world. Profits don't stay with the producers, but end up in foreign countries. There are plans to drill for oil off the coast of Ghana. But it's still not certain whether local people will benefit at all from this potentially lucrative new source of income.