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### **Pop-rock Music as World Phenomenon**

Pop-rock music is by early 21<sup>st</sup> century a world phenomenon. The field of popular music in many countries consists at the beginning of this century of a series of pop-rock scenes, genres and styles, such as mainstream pop, alternative rock, ethnic rock, extreme metal, hip-hop, electronic music. While much of these styles and genres are indigenized and localized through various creative and production practices, it remains a major aspect of pop-rock music that it also standardizes major cultural features of national fields of popular music. This paper looks comparatively at pop-rock music in different countries, and examines its standardizing effect along several dimensions. These include electric instrumentation, ritual classification, ritual periodization, diffusion of styles and genres, legitimation discourses, and the emergence of ethnic rock. Although not proposing a homogenization thesis, the paper does argue that pop-rock propels a condition of greater proximity between musical nationalisms of various countries.