

## WTI Distinguished Lecture

Chad Bown, Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, DC, Research Fellow at CEPR in London and Non-Resident Fellow at the WTI

### The United States, European Union, and China: Imminent Challenges to the Multilateral Trading System

MONDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2017, 17:30 – 19:00

Silva Casa Auditorium, World Trade Institute, University of Bern  
Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern, Switzerland

On 6 February 2017, Chad Bown, Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, DC and Research Fellow at CEPR in London, will hold an afternoon lecture on “The United States, European Union, and China: Imminent Challenges to the Multilateral Trading System”. Prof. Manfred Elsig, Director NCCR Trade Regulation and Deputy Managing Director World Trade Institute will moderate the discussion.

#### Abstract

The presidential election of Donald Trump, a series of votes across the European Union, and the 15th anniversary of China's entry into the World Trade Organization made 2016 a potentially pivotal year for the rules-based trading system. In the United States, generations of workers have failed to adjust to the increasingly disruptive forces of automation and globalization. A sufficiently sizable share of the skeptical US electorate thus chose a new President who appears to value deals more than rules. The European Union has also been forced to turn increasingly inward – time after time since the global financial crisis – to address a series of first economic and now political crisis. And while China wrestles with its own period of adjustment away from an export-oriented to a consumer-based economy, it is under external attack for not having transformed into the market economy that its trading partners had hoped. Is the timing and combination of these issues a serious threat to the multilateral, GATT/WTO system, just as it nears its 70th birthday?

#### Biography of the Speaker

Chad P. Bown is a Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, DC, a Research Fellow at CEPR in London and a Non-Resident Fellow at the WTI. Bown is formerly a tenured Professor of Economics at Brandeis University, where he began his career and was on the faculty for twelve years with a joint appointment in the Department of Economics and International Business School (IBS). He also served as Senior Economist for International Trade and Investment in the White House on the President's Council of Economic Advisers (CEA) during 2010-2011. Bown spent a year in residence as a visiting scholar in Economic Research at the WTO Secretariat in Geneva, and most recently he was a Lead Economist at the World Bank conducting research and advising governments in developing countries on international trade policy. Bown is the author of the book *Self-Enforcing Trade: Developing Countries and WTO Dispute Settlement* (Brookings Institution Press, 2009), and the co-editor, with Joost Pauwelyn, of *The Law, Economics, and Politics of Retaliation in WTO Dispute Settlement* (Cambridge University Press, 2010). His volume on *The Great Recession and Import Protection: The Role of Temporary Trade Barriers* (CEPR and World Bank, 2011) built from his trade policy monitoring initiatives during 2008-2010. Bown received a B.A. magna cum laude in Economics and International Relations from Bucknell University and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Participation is free of charge. Due to limited seating, please register [here!](#)