

## NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Series

Alberto van Klaveren, Professor of International Relations at the University of Chile and former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile

### Regionalism in Latin America

Wednesday, 14 September 2016, 12.30 – 13.30

Silva Casa Auditorium, World Trade Institute, University of Bern

Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern, Switzerland

#### Abstract

Regionalism has been a persistent feature of the international relations of Latin American states, dating back to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Regional integration is an idea as old as Latin America's states themselves. Integration efforts have undergone a number of ups and downs, each of them accompanied by fervent enthusiasm, only to backslide with a long list of pledges for deeper integration remaining unfulfilled. While there has been no shortage of dynamism on Latin America's regional scene, real progress in deepening integration has remained elusive.

Since 1960, Latin American attempts at regionalism have been pursued through different waves, generally associated with specific economic and political models adopted by participating states. They have also tended to diverge across space, gradually giving birth to separate blocs and overlapping projects.

The latest waves of regionalism in Latin America have been associated with liberal and post-liberal economic and political experiments in the region. The open regionalism of the 1990s was replaced during the next decade by post-liberal regionalism. However, the limits — if not the demise — of post-liberal experiments in the most important economies of Latin America place the question of the future of regionalism. Will regionalism hold its sway in Latin America? Will present integration schemes continue in the region? Will there be a convergence in diversity between integration projects in Latin America?

#### Biography of the Speaker

Alberto van Klaveren, is a law graduate from the Universidad de Chile, has an MA from the University of Denver and doctoral degrees from the University of Leiden, Netherlands and Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (honoris causa).

Between 1985 and 1992 he lived in Spain, where he worked for the Institute for European-Latin American Relations (IRELA), the Asociación de Investigación y Especialización sobre Temas Iberoamericanos (AIETI, a research institute specialised in Latin American affairs) and the Instituto Universitario Ortega y Gasset. In 1992 he returned to Chile, where he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a senior advisor. He also resumed his academic career at the Institute of International Studies, becoming its director for approximately eighteen months. In 1996 he was appointed Director for Policy Planning at the Foreign Ministry, a position which he left in May 2001 to become Ambassador of Chile to the European Union. In that capacity, he participated in the negotiation of the Association Agreement between Chile and the EU. He also became Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg. In 2006 he was appointed Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs by President Michelle Bachelet, a position which he held until October 2010. Between 2008 and 2014 he was the Agent of Chile for the case Peru v. Chile, Maritime Delimitation brought to the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

**Participation is free of charge, no registration is needed. We warmly welcome you to join our seminar at the World Trade Institute!**

NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Seminars are 30-minute presentations, given by external or in-house researchers. The presentations are followed by a 30-minute Q&A session. The Brown Bag concept comes from the US; it means that people bring their own lunch and eat it during the presentation.