

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW I: SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Course description

This course will provide a basic introduction to the economics of international investment and an examination of international investment law at both the multilateral and regional levels and addresses key rule-making dynamics and challenges in investment negotiations. The course then focuses on the rapidly evolving landscape of investment rules under bilateral investment treaties (BITs) and preferential trade agreements with investment provisions. This course is of interest to practitioners from NGOs interested in development, officials from governmental institutions, international lawyers and academics. The main method of instruction will be the analysis of case studies, complemented with theoretical classes.

Course details

Participants: Open course (MILE, TRAIL+, DAS, CAS and à la Carte)

Requirement: Optional

Price: CHF 1'200 (only for à la Carte participants)

Format: Modular, Case study lecture

ECTS: 3 (only for MILE, TRAIL+, DAS and CAS)

Lecturers: Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer, Rodrigo Polanco

Biographies

Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer: PD Dr. iur Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer is Co-Head of Legal Services at the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law. Previously working with the Swiss Center for Human Rights Studies at the University of Zurich and the law faculty of the University of Basel, Krista continues to teach at the Universities of Basel and Bern, as well as at the WTI. Her research interests cover a wide range of topics relating to trade and investment, but she mainly focuses on the questions of how the international economic law system interacts with the general international law rules relating to natural and human resources. Krista holds a JD from Georgetown University Law Center and a doctorate and Habilitation from the University of Bern. She is registered with the New York State Bar Association.

Rodrigo Polanco: Rodrigo is an Assistant Professor of International Economic Law at the Universidad de Chile where he has been teaching investment law, international trade law, and international environmental law, both at the Institute of International Studies and the Faculty of Law, where he also served as the Director of International Affairs. He joined the WTI as a senior researcher/lecturer, and also as coordinator of the SECO Project (which supports development of Regional Competence Centres for Trade Law and Policy in Peru, South Africa, Vietnam, Indonesia and Chile) and of the SNIS Project (Diffusion of International Law: A Textual Analysis of International Investment Agreements). Rodrigo is a published scholar and legal practitioner with experience in both the public and private sectors. He holds a Bachelor and a Master of Laws from Universidad de Chile School of Law, an LL.M. in International Legal Studies from New York University (NYU) School of Law, and a PhD from the University of Bern, Graduate School of Economic Globalisation and Integration, specialised in international investment law. Rodrigo is a visiting professor at Universidad Externado Colombia and member of the editorial team of their Law and Economy Review (Contexto), and a visiting professor and research external evaluator of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP). He is also a co-founder of Fiscalía del Medio Ambiente (FIMA) a Chilean non-profit organization working in public interest environmental cases, and teaching local communities and members of the judiciary on environmental law. He serves as director of their environmental law journal (Justicia Ambiental).