

Trade in Services

Course description

This course will be comprised of lectures and studies regarding the liberalisation of trade in services (GATS). The course will involve an in-depth introduction into the scope and contents of the GATS and its key legal principles and obligations with a special focus on the relevant GATS case law and the function and structure of the schedules of specific commitments. Further emphasis will be placed on negotiations and adequate negotiating approaches (bilateral, plurilateral or multilateral, request & offer or formula-based), commitments (schedules, conditions) and specific areas, in particular public services such as health and education. This course will include also discussions of the developmental implications of services trade, the need and scope for trade remedies in services (safeguards and countervailing duties), as well as the status of the MFN requirement and possible departures under the GATS (including MFN exemptions, preferential trade agreements, recognition measures) and, in this context, the role of bilateral labour market agreements and investment treaties.

Course details

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

Requirement: Optional

Price: CHF 1'800 (only for à la Carte participants)

Format: Modular, Case study course

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

Lecturers: Pierre Sauv , Weiwei Zhang

Biographies

Pierre Sauv : Pierre Sauv  is a Senior Trade Specialist within the World Bank Group's Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice. Based in the World Bank's Geneva office, he manages interactions with Geneva-based trade institutions and the donor

community and represents the Bank in key trade-governance related committees at the OECD, in Paris. He served most recently as the WTI's Director of External Programmes and Academic Partnerships. He also serves as an academic advisor and as a faculty member of the University of Barcelona's LLM programme in international economic law and policy (IELPO) and is a Visiting Professor at the College of Europe, in Bruges, Belgium. He has held visiting professor appointments at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques' (Sciences-Po) in Paris, France, and the London School of Economics and Political Science.

He served as a senior economist in the OECD Trade Directorate from 1993–2002, a period during which he was a faculty member of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and was appointed non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. Prior to joining the OECD, he served as services negotiator within the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Office of North American Free Trade Negotiations. He was previously a staff member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva, Switzerland as well as the Bank for International Settlements, in Basel, Switzerland.

Mr Sauvé was educated in economics and international relations at the Université du Québec à Montreal and Carleton University in Canada, as well as at Cambridge and Oxford universities in the United Kingdom. He has advised the governments of a number of OECD and developing countries and served as a consultant to leading regional and multilateral agencies involved in trade, finance and development. He serves on the editorial board of the Journal of International Economic Law and the Journal of World Trade. He was appointed in 2003 as a member of the dispute panel roster of trade specialists established under the North American Free Trade Agreement and served on the Warwick Commission on the Future of the Multilateral Trading System in 2007. He currently serves on the Scientific Committee of the Swiss network for International Studies and on the Advisory Board of the WTO Academic Chairs programme.

Weiwei Zhang: Weiwei Zhang is a postdoctoral researcher at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and an external expert at Sidley Austin LLP's Geneva office. She obtained her PhD in International Law *summa cum laude* from the Graduate Institute, Geneva and holds a master of laws as well as a master of economics. From 2007 to 2009 Weiwei served as a project officer for the EU-China Trade Project, working on technical assistance projects relating to China's implementation of its commitments under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). She interned in the Trade in Services Division of the WTO Secretariat in 2010 and continued cooperating with the Division staffs on GATS-related research projects. In 2011, she joined the second phase of the EU-China Trade Project as a project manager. From 2012 to 2014, she worked for Sidley Austin LLP's Geneva

office on WTO litigation. Weiwei serves on the editorial board of the Latin American Journal of International Trade Law. She lectured on trade in services at the IELPO LL.M. and the ELSA Summer Schools. She also taught a graduate course on international trade and investment law at Tsinghua University in Beijing.