

WTI Global Economic Governance Seminar Series

James Bacchus, Distinguished University Professor of Global Affairs and Director of the Center for Global Economic and Environmental Opportunity at the University of Central Florida. Founding judge and twice Chairman of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization.

TRADE LINKS: NEW RULES FOR A NEW WORLD

TUESDAY, 31 MAY 2022

16.00-17.30 CET (FOLLOWED BY AN APÉRO)

Silva Casa Auditorium, World Trade Institute, Hallerstrasse 6, CH-3012 Bern or online (details below)

Brief Description

The lecture will have a look at the World Trade Organization and the existential crisis it is undergoing. Trade links the world not only through the flow of international commerce in goods, services, and ideas; but also through its economic, environmental, and social impacts. Trade links are supported by a WTO trading system founded on rules established in the 20th century, which do not account for all the modern changes in the global economy. James Bacchus posits that this global organization can survive and continue to succeed only if the trade links among WTO members are revitalized and reimagined. He explains how to bring the WTO into the twenty-first century, exploring the ways it can be utilized to combat future pandemics and climate change and advance sustainable development, all while continuing to foster free trade.

Speaker Biography

Mr James Bacchus is the Distinguished University Professor of Global Affairs and Director of the Center for Global Economic and Environmental Opportunity at the University of Central Florida. He was a founding judge and was twice the Chairman – the chief judge – of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. He has judged more WTO trade disputes than anyone else in the world and has been described by *The American Lawyer* magazine as “the John Marshall of the World Trade Organization.” Professor Bacchus is a former Member of the Congress of the United States, from Florida, and a former international trade negotiator for the United States. He is a leading advocate and activist worldwide for international cooperation, international trade, the international rule of law, global democracy, and global sustainable development. As founder and director of the UCF Center for Global Economic and Environmental Opportunity – GEEO – he works locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally with a growing collaborative network of experts, activists, and other volunteers to foster links to sustainable development at every level and to explore new forms of governance at every level that increase democratic participation and that create economic and environmental opportunity and social inclusion. He is also the author of multiple books and one of them has been named one of the “Best Books of the Year” by the *Financial Times*. His latest publication is called *Trade Links: New Rules for a New World*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2022.



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