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# World Trade Forum 2020

## The Future of Trade Policy and External Cooperation: is Soft Power Passé?

22 - 23 September 2020



| BertelsmannStiftung



**World Trade Forum 2020**

# The Future of Trade Policy and External Cooperation: is Soft Power Passé?

**22-23 September 2020**

**Bernard Hoekman**, European University Institute

## Introduction

Trade policy is back in the center of policy attention. Trade conflicts among major economies have been growing. Large trading powers are reconsidering long-held trade and investment policy stances. Political pressures are increasing to induce reshoring of global value chains to enhance 'strategic autonomy' and to use trade as a tool to pursue non-trade objectives. Instruments to address foreign subsidization, tax the digital economy and to use trade policy to help green the economy raise the prospects of further trade tensions. This year's World Trade Forum brings together researchers and practitioners to reflect on recent developments and opportunities to bolster trade cooperation looking forward.

The conference is supported by and draws on output of the RESPECT project (EU Horizon 2020 programme, grant agreement No 770680). See the project website at: <http://respect.eui.eu/>.

## Programme

**22 September Plenary 1: Trade and Non-Trade Policy Objectives: Soft vs. Hard Power**

09.50 - 10.00 Opening remarks

**Bernard Hoekman** | EUI and **Joseph Francois** | WTI

10.00 - 11.30 Chair: **Manfred Elsig** | WTI

Speakers:

**Paola Conconi** | ULB

**Pamela Coke-Hamilton** | UNCTAD/ITC

**Junior Lodge** | Independent Trade Consultant

**Eduardo Pedrosa** | PECC, Singapore

## Parallel Sessions

13.00 - 14.30 **Panel A: China-EU-US Trade Relations: from Cooperation to Conflict... and back?**

Chair: **Jacques Pelkmans** | CEPS

Speakers:

**Zhang Xiangchen** | Ambassador of China to the WTO

**Tu Xinquan** | UIBE

**Weinian Hu** | CEPS

**Mary Lovely** | PIIE

### **Panel B: Value Chains and Sustainability Footprints**

Chair: **Octavio Fernandez Amador** | WTI University of Bern

Speakers:

**Doris Oberdabernig** | WTI University of Bern

**Joseph Francois** | WTI University of Bern

**Patrick Tomberger** | WTI University of Bern

**Clara Brandi** | German Development Institute

## Plenary 2: Trade Policy & Trade Wars: Back to the Past?

15.00 - 16.30 Chairs: **Ernesto Zedillo** | Yale and **Patrick Messerlin** | ECIPE

Speakers:

**Anne Krueger** | John Hopkins

**Craig Vangrasstek** | Harvard

**Sebastien Jean** | CEPPII

**André Sapir** | Bruegel

**23 September Plenary 3: The Multilateral Trading System: Game over?**

10.00 - 11.30 Chair: **Mia Horn Af Rantzien** | SNS, Stockholm

Speakers:

**Peter van den Bossche** | WTI

**Deborah Elms** | Asian Trade Centre, Singapore

**Bernard Hoekman** | EUI

**Peter Draper** | University of Adelaide

*Sponsored by the Bertelsmann Stiftung*

## Partner Session: What Would Happen to a World without the WTO?

12.00 - 13.00 Chair: **Pradeep Mehta** | CUTS International

Speakers:

**Bernd Lange** | European Parliament/Chair, Committee on International Trade

**Emily Jones** | University of Oxford

**Kimberley Botwright** | Global Trade and Investment, World Economic Forum

**Bipul Chatterjee** | CUTS International

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## Parallel Sessions

14.00 - 15.30

### ***Panel C: Trade Integration and Policy Coherence***

Chair: **Jan-Yves Remy** | University of West Indies

Speakers:

**Miklos Koren** | CEU

**Kamala Dawar** | Sussex

**Laszlo Bruszt** | CEU

**San Bilal** | ECDPM

### ***Panel D: Introducing a New Database on Investment Treaties***

Chair: **Rodrigo Polanco** | WTI

Speakers:

**Wolfgang Alschner** | University of Ottawa

**Priyanka Kher** | World Bank

**Morr Link** | Hebrew University

**Anne-Marie Thow** | University of Sydney

## Plenary 4: COVID-19: Lessons for Trade Policy & Cooperation

16.00 - 17.30 Chair: **Alan Winters** | University of Sussex and UKTPO

Speakers:

**Ken Ash** | Independent Consultant (ex-OECD)

**Caroline Freund** | World Bank

**Simon Evenett** | GTA, University of St. Gallen

**Sabine Weyand** | European Commission