

World Trade Forum
University of Bern, Switzerland
25–26 October 2019

PROGRAMME

Multilateralism at Risk

UniS, University of Bern, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern, Switzerland



Day 1: Friday, 25 October 2019

9:00–9:30 Registration for delegates

9:30–9:40 Welcome and opening remarks
Joseph Francois, World Trade Institute
Bernard Hoekman, European University Institute

9:40–11:00 **Plenary Session I**
The future of international economic dispute resolution

Chair: Isabelle Van Damme, Van Bael & Bellis

Panellists:

- Karen Alter, Northwestern University
- James Flett, European Commission
- Jae Sung Lee, UNCITRAL
- Gabrielle Marceau, University of Geneva
- Stephan Schill, University of Amsterdam

11:00–11:30 Coffee

11:30–13:00 **Parallel Session A: Book Track**

Chair: Claude Chase, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Panellists:

- Kholofelo Kugler, Advisory Centre on WTO Law, “Considering arbitration as an alternative to WTO appellate review”
- Cornelia Furculiță, German University of Administrative Sciences, Speyer, “The time of PTAs dispute settlement mechanisms might have come: Assessing the risks”
- Tetyana Payosova, Van Bael & Bellis, Geneva, “Re-designing mediation in the future WTO dispute settlement governance”
- Sean Stacy, World Trade Institute, “WTO Dispute Settlement: ‘Will of the Strongest’ or ‘Rule of Law’?”

Parallel Session B: National and international regulation on e-commerce and data flows (organised by WTI)

Chair: Iza Lejárraga, OECD

- Panellists**
- Mira Burri, University of Lucerne, “Introducing TAPED: A database on trade agreement provisions on E-commerce and data flows”
 - Rahel Schär, University of Lucerne, “The privacy shield: Facilitating data flows to the US under the GDPR”
 - Sebastian Klotz, World Trade Institute, “Data flow regulation in preferential trade agreements: Is there a WTO impact?”
 - Erik van der Marel, European Centre for International Political Economy, “Digital Trade Restrictiveness Index (DTRI)”

Parallel Session C: WTO reform (organised by Bertelsmann Stiftung)

Chair: Thomas Rausch, Bertelsmann Stiftung

- Panellists:**
- Mark Wu, Harvard University, “SOEs, subsidies and the trading system”
 - Robert Wolfe, Queens University, “Improving the use of “specific trade concerns” in WTO conflict management”
 - Bernard Hoekman, European University Institute, “Competition policy lessons for trade rules”

- Discussant:**
- Eddy de Smijter, European Commission
 - Arancha Gonzalez, ITC

13:00–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:20

Plenary Session II

Climate change, trade and investment: Cross-regime learning?

Chair:

Thomas Cottier, World Trade Institute

Panellists

- Marie Claire Cordonier Segger, University of Cambridge
- Arancha Gonzalez, International Trade Centre
- Jürgen Kurtz, European University Institute
- Simon Lester, Cato Institute

15.20–16.50

Parallel Session D: Book Track

Chair:

Tetyana Payosova, Van Bael & Bellis

Panellists

- Karen Alter, Northwestern University, “Legalizing international economic dispute resolution”
- Vyoma Jha, Stanford Law School, “The politics of renewables: Lessons for international economic dispute settlement from renewable energy-related disputes”
- Malebakeng Forere, University of Witwatersrand, “No lessons from the crises in the international trade and investment dispute settlement mechanisms: the African Continental Free Trade Area”
- Kathleen Claussen, University of Miami School of Law, “A future for trade agreement design after USMCA”

Parallel Session E: Investment and labour relations (organised by WTI)

Chair:

Prof. Céline Carrère, University of Geneva

Panellists

- Matthew Amengual, University of Oxford, “Can sourcing help enforce global labor standards? Evidence from the Gap Inc supply chain”
- Patrick Bigler, World Trade Institute, “Trade-labor linkages and international investment: Protectionism in disguise?”
- Patrick Wagner, World Trade Institute, “Unintended consequences: spillover of decent work from outward investment locations in Brazil”
- Damian Raess, World Trade Institute, “The demand-side politics of China’s global buying spree: Individual attitudes toward Chinese inward FDI flows in comparative perspective”

Parallel Session F: Data collection on international investment agreements and its implementation (organised by WTI)

Chair: Roberto Echandi, World Bank

Panellists:

- Diana Rosert, UNCTAD, “Introducing the International Investment Agreements Navigator, and the Investment Dispute Settlement Navigator”
- Daniel Behn, University of Oslo, “Introducing PluriCourts Investment Treaty Arbitration Database (PITAD)”
- Rodrigo Polanco, World Trade Institute and Wolfgang Alschner, University of Ottawa, “Introducing EDIT - An Electronic Database of Investment Treaties”

Discussant:

- Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer, Swiss Institute of Comparative Law

16:50–17:10 Coffee

17:10–18:30 **Plenary Session III**
Clash of economic models: China and the multilateral trading system

Chair: Christian Bluth, Bertelsmann Stiftung

Panellists:

- Kathleen Claussen, University of Miami
- Lionel Fontagne, University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
- Kurt Haerri, Schindler
- Monika Rühl, economiesuisse
- André Sapir, Université libre de Bruxelles

18:30–20:00 Apéro riche at Restaurant Grosse Schanze

Day 2: Saturday, 26 October 2019

9:00–10:30 Parallel Session G: Book Track

Chair: Nicolas J.S. Lockhart, Sidley Austin LLP, Geneva

- Panellists:**
- Krzysztof J. Pelc, McGill University, Montreal, “Authorship of rulings at the WTO: Does It matter who holds the pen”
 - Lauge Poulsen, University College London, “A world without ISDS? Costs and benefits”
 - Stephan Schill, University of Amsterdam, “Investment dispute settlement à la carte: Vision for the UNCITRAL reform process?”
 - Daniel Behn, Malcolm Langford and Runar Hilleren Lie, University of Oslo, “Who writes arbitral awards? A stylometric analysis of investment treaty arbitration”

Parallel Session H: Realising Europe's Soft Power in External Cooperation and Trade – RESPECT (organised by EUI)

Chair: Matteo Fiorini, European University Institute

- Panellists:**
- Miriam Manchin, World Trade Institute, “Assessing the effects of nontrade provisions of trade agreements”
 - Mattia Di Ubaldo, University of Sussex, “The impact of trade policy uncertainty removal in the EU GSP scheme”
 - Kamala Dawar, University of Sussex, “Do EU export credit agencies comply with international norms?”
 - Hugo Rojas Romagosa, World Trade Institute, “The effectiveness of the EU's impact assessment and consultation mechanisms”

Parallel Session I: GVCs, investments and PTAs (organised by OECD and WTI)

Chair: Manfred Elsig, World Trade Institute

- Panellists:**
- Iza Lejarraga, OECD, “The rationale of a new GVC-database in trade agreements”
 - Marietta Angeli, World Trade Institute, “Coding RoO, preliminary results”
 - Julien Gourdon, OECD, “The rationale for better RoO data”

Discussant: Joseph Francois, World Trade Institute

10:30–11:00 Coffee

11:00–12:30 **Plenary Session IV**
Revisiting special and differential treatment for developing countries

Chair: Michael Hahn, World Trade Institute

- Panellists:**
- Sean Doherty, World Economic Forum
 - Roberto Echandi, World Bank
 - H.E. Sergio Toro, Permanent Mission of Chile to the WTO
 - Cherise Valles, Advisory Centre on WTO Law

12:30–13:30 Lunch

13.30–15.00

Parallel Session J: Book Track

Chair:

Marina Foltea, Trade Pacts

Panellists:

- Gabrielle Marceau, University of Geneva, “Current crisis of WTO dispute settlement”
- Simon Lester and Huan Zhu, Cato Institute, “Innovation in the enforcement of international economic law: Can the United States make auto-interpretation work?”
- James Flett, European Commission, “Keep calm and carry on litigating”
- Philippe Lionnet, SECO, “International economic dispute settlement and digital trade – new legal challenges in substance and concerning choice of forum?”

Parallel Session K: Challenges of establishing an international framework for investment facilitation (organised by DIE)

Chair:

Axel Berger, German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

Panellists:

- Ali Dadkhah, Curiak Consulting, “Economic impacts of a potential investment facilitation agreement - quantifying investment facilitation: Introducing the Investment Facilitation Index”
- Matthew Stephenson, World Economic Forum, “The practitioner’s perspective: insights on investment facilitation from global firms and from projects in Cambodia and Ghana”
- Malebakeng Forere, WITS University, “The WTO Facilitation Framework without Africa: Unpacking the conundrum”
- Lauge Poulsen, University College London, “UK investment policy post-Brexit: A role for investment facilitation?”

Parallel Session L: Research collaboration and communication beyond the ivory tower (organised by SNIS)

Chair: Raymond Saner, CSEND

- Panellists:**
- Bernhard Fuhrer, SNIS, "Why do research funding organisations insist on new communication formats?"
 - Petru Dimitriu, UN Joint Inspection Unit, "How can we improve the influence of academic research in policy making and how can we make research more palatable in international organisations?"
 - Christophe Gironde, IHEID, "Designing effective and efficient joint academic-policy maker-practitioner research proposals"
 - Mirko Winkler, Swiss TPH, "What value added for multimedia productions as part of the research output"
 - Ruxandra Stoicescu, SNIS, "How to be heard and seen; 'advertising' research results to the broader public"

15.00–15.30 Coffee

15.30–16.45 **Plenary Session V**
The ILO at 100, the fourth industrial revolution, trade and employment

Chair: Damian Raess, World Trade Institute

- Panellists:**
- Dorothee Baumann-Pauly, University of Geneva
 - Jean-Jacques Elmiger, SECO
 - Renate Hornung-Draus, Confederation of German Employers' Associations
 - Sangheon Lee, ILO
 - Luca Visentini, European Trade Union Confederation

16.45–16.50 Closing remarks
Peter Van den Bossche