

## NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Series

Anirudh Shingal, Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute, Florence, and Senior Research Fellow and member of the Economics faculty at the World Trade Institute

### COLONIAL LEGACY, SERVICES TRADE AND LDCS

**Tuesday, 11 April 2017, 12.30 – 13.30**

Anna Nussbaum Auditorium, World Trade Institute, University of Bern  
Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern, Switzerland

#### Abstract

Existing work examining the trade effect of colonial legacy does not consider services trade or the impact on LDCs. We bridge this gap by providing evidence from the Commonwealth and Francophonie countries using a large more recent panel dataset of 241 countries over 1995-2010. Commonwealth membership is found to increase services exports by 56.2% in our baseline estimates while being a Francophonie country is associated with four times more trade; both effects are significantly larger than the corresponding goods trade effects. Descriptive statistics reveal the growing reliance of small, low-income former colonies on the respective “colonial groups”. Corroborating this, we find much larger (than average) services trade effects for ex-colonies that are LDCs, emphasizing the importance of colonial relationships for countries with weak institutional capacity. Our results are robust to accounting for China and to Brexit (for the Commonwealth).

#### Biography of the Speaker

Anirudh Shingal is a Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, and a Senior Research Fellow and member of the Economics faculty at the World Trade Institute, University of Bern. A PhD in Economics from the University of Sussex, Anirudh specialises in International Economics, Applied Econometrics and Development. He has 15 years of experience in empirical analyses of trade and development issues and over 50 publications on services, government procurement and preferential trade agreements as peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters and reports completed for various international organisations. Anirudh is also affiliated with the Centre for the Analysis of Regional Integration at Sussex (CARIS) and has also worked with the World Bank, WTO and the private sector. Anirudh graduated 'summa cum laude' from the MILE programme at the WTI and also holds a Master's degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics. His undergraduate degree was in Economics (Honours) from St Stephen's College, Delhi University.

**Participation is free of charge, no registration is needed.  
We warmly welcome you to join our seminar at the World Trade Institute!**

NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Seminars are 30-minute presentations, given by external or in-house researchers. The presentations are followed by a 30-minute Q&A session. The Brown Bag concept comes from the US; it means that people bring their own lunch and eat it during the presentation.