

Trade Compliance

Semester:	Spring Semester- FS 2026
Root Number:	495321
ECTS:	3
Lecturer:	Hevin Demir and Philipp Weber-Lortsch
Dates:	June 29 to 3 July, 2026
Room:	This is a hybrid course. The course will be held on-site at the World Trade Institute, Anna Nussbaum Room, Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern, and online on Zoom.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide an overview of customs regulations, export controls and sanctions, as well as key trade-related sustainability requirements, and their impact on international supply chains and trade compliance. You will gain not only a solid understanding of the principles underpinning trade regulations but also insights into how corporations implement these legal requirements in practice. Additionally, the course will explore common operational challenges, particularly in the context of geopolitical tensions and uncertainty. Furthermore, you will learn industry-specific trade regulations, automation options, and relevant measures to ensure compliance and achieve efficiencies throughout the supply chain.

Lecturers

Hevin Demir

Hevin is leading the Global Trade Advisory Practice at Deloitte Switzerland.

She has a legal background (attorney at law), and she has worked on both sides, consulting and in the industry. She specialized in customs process optimization, digitalization, and compliance of customs and trade flows. She started her career in Germany and worked there for 6 years, where she gained detailed knowledge of EU trade regulations and practice, as well as more than 10 years of experience in Switzerland, where she advised global players in various international projects.

As an in-house Global Customs expert or as an advisor, she made it a priority to provide practical and operational solutions, while improving compliance, transparency, and efficiencies.

Philippe Weber-Lortsch

Philipp is an international trade lawyer and certified compliance officer, serving as Director in Deloitte Switzerland's Global Trade Advisory practice, where he leads sustainability-in-the-supply-chain offerings. In addition, Philipp chairs Deloitte's EMEA Tax & Legal Sanctions and Export Controls community.

With more than 10 years at Deloitte, he has specialized in a wide range of (trade) compliance areas, with a specific focus on international sanctions, embargos, export controls, sustainability in the supply chain, and other business integrity matters. He regularly designs and reviews Trade Compliance Management Systems against international standards and supports global enforcement cases while maintaining dialogue with regulatory bodies in Switzerland, the EU, and the US.

As a frequent speaker and author on trade compliance and sustainability, Philipp shares his expertise through publications and seminars, including engagements at the Swiss School for International Business. He studied law in Germany, Switzerland, and South Africa, is a qualified lawyer in the EU, and holds an Anglo-American Master of Laws (LL.M).

Learning Objectives

During this week, you will:

- Learn how companies navigate trade in times of an everchanging geopolitical landscape.
- Gain an understanding of the trade compliance function in the corporate environment and its interactions with internal and external stakeholders.
- Explore how trade regulations impact supply chains and how companies are structured internally, including human resources, systems, and data management, to meet global customs obligations.
- Learn about trade and customs topics specific to various industries, such as Pharma, Med-Tech, Automotive, and automotive suppliers.
- Examine ESG regulations, focusing on due diligence and traceability requirements, and their practical impact along the supply chain.
- Deep-dive into geopolitics, international sanctions, and export controls, addressing their expansion driven by increasing political frictions.

Assessment

- Students' knowledge will be assessed on the basis of a written exam, which needs to be completed on an individual basis.
- The written assignment will take place on Friday 3 July at 09h00 until 12h00

Course Overview

Date	Day	Time	Topic / lecturer
29 June	Monday	09:00 – 12:00	Introduction to Trade Compliance – Hevin Demir
		14:00 – 16:00	Industry-specific (e.g., automotive & automotive suppliers) – Hevin Demir
30 June	Tuesday	09:00 – 12:00	Industry-specific (e.g., Pharma and Med. Tech) – Hevin Demir
		14:00 – 16:00	Trade Compliance function in the corporate governance, Trade Automation & System – Hevin Demir
1 July	Wednesday	09:00 – 12:00	Geopolitics, Sanctions & Export Controls (Introduction) – Philipp Weber-Lortsch
		14:00 – 16:00	Sanctions & Export Controls (Compliance Management) – Philipp Weber-Lortsch
2 July	Thursday	09:00 – 10:30	Sanctions & Export Controls (U.S. deep dive) – Philipp Weber-Lortsch
		10:30 – 12:00	Sustainability in the Supply Chain (Introduction) – Philipp Weber-Lortsch
		14:00 – 16:00	ESG Laws (CBAM, EUDR, CSDDD, Human Rights / Forced Labour Laws) – Philipp Weber-Lortsch
3 July	Friday	09:00 – 12:00	Assessment