

Global Economic Governance Seminar Series I

Semester: Fall semester- HS 2020

ECTS: 1,5

Lectures: Victor do Prado, Gabrielle Marceau, Nora Neufeld, Thomas Bernauer (tbc)

Dates: 28 September, 12 October, 26 October, 14 December

Location: Silva Casa Auditorium, World Trade Institute, Hallerstrasse 6, Bern. This course will also be held online, with live sessions on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92231937200?pwd=RTdRdFhHTeERzBReGdlZGFUdXlHZz09>

Meeting ID: 922 3193 7200

Passcode: 934364

Audience:

- Government officials; Embassy staff; people working for international organisations and NGOs, industry and in legal practice
- Master of Advanced Studies of International Law and Economics (MILE) Students
- Joint LL.M. / Diploma of Advanced Studies Trade and Investment Law (TRAIL+) Students - World Trade Institute / Faculty of Law, Unibe
- Certificate of Advanced Studies / Diploma of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics (CAS ILE & DAS ILE) Students - World Trade Institute, Unibe
- Students from different universities across Switzerland

Course Description

This course consists of a number of stand-alone seminars on different aspects of global economic governance. These 2- or 3-hour seminars are taught by leading experts in the field. The purpose of the seminars is to allow students to benefit from the insights and personal experiences of the experts invited.

Learning Objectives

To better appreciate the rich diversity and complexity of topics that are housed under the heading of 'global economic governance'

Exams and Grades

The final grade will be based on a 5-page paper on one of the topics addressed during this course. To be eligible to submit this paper, students must have attended at least 80% of the seminars. The paper is due at the end of the exam period of the first semester.

Course Overview

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LECTURER
Monday, 28 September	16:15-18:15	WTO Governance: Overview and Development	Victor do Prado
Monday, 12 October	16:15-18:15	Tensions and changes in WTO Geopolitics	Gabrielle Marceau
Monday, 26 October	16:15-18:15	Proposals on WTO Reform	Victor do Prado
Monday, 14 December	16:15-18:15	WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement	Nora Neufeld

SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

Lecture: Victor do Prado

Victor do Prado currently works as Director of Council and TNC Division at the WTO. He previously served as a Counsellor in the WTO Rules Division where he acted as a Secretary of the WTO Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. During his work at the WTO, he held the position of the Chairman of the Subsidies Committee, served as a panellist in various cases and was a Member of the Brazilian Delegation in dispute settlement proceedings several times. Mr Do Prado holds a Degree in Law from the University of São Paulo and a Master in International Relations from the Brazilian Diplomatic Academy. He has lectured at the University of Paris, the Freie Universität Berlin and at Georgetown University Law School.



Topic:

WTO Governance: Overview and Development

In this lecture, we will examine the structure of WTO governance, based on the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the WTO, and decision making in the WTO.

We will also examine the role of Ministerial Conferences and the evolution of Members' positions on negotiating practices, linking them to broader geo-economic conditions.

We will further give some pointers to the future of WTO governance and decision-making.

OCTOBER 12, 2020

Lecture: Gabrielle Marceau

Gabrielle Marceau, PhD, is Senior Counsellor in the Legal Affairs Division of the WTO, which she joined in September 1994. Her main function is to advise panellists in WTO disputes, the Director-General Office and the Secretariat on WTO related matters. From September 2005 to January 2010, Gabrielle Marceau was a member of the Cabinet of the WTO Director General Pascal Lamy. Professor Marceau is Associate Professor at the University of Geneva where she teaches WTO law to students from the law and international relations faculties. Before joining the GATT/WTO, Professor Marceau worked in private practice in Quebec, Canada, mainly in the sectors of labour law and insurance law. Professor Marceau has published extensively, namely in WTO related matters.



OCTOBER 26, 2020

Lecture: Victor do Prado

Victor do Prado currently works as Director of Council and TNC Division at the WTO. He previously served as a Counsellor in the WTO Rules Division where he acted as a Secretary of the WTO Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. During his work at the WTO, he held the position of the Chairman of the Subsidies Committee, served as a panellist in various cases and was a Member of the Brazilian Delegation in dispute settlement proceedings several times. Mr Do Prado holds a Degree in Law from the University of São Paulo and a Master in International Relations from the Brazilian Diplomatic Academy. He has lectured at the University of Paris, the Freie Universität Berlin and at Georgetown University Law School.



DECEMBER 14, 2020

Topic: WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

Lecturer: Nora Neufeld

Nora Neufeld

A trade lawyer with a specialisation in WTO rules, Nora Neufeld joined the World Trade Organization in early 2001. As the Secretary of the Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation, she oversaw the multilateral negotiations in this field. Following their successful conclusion, she is now in charge of the Preparatory Committee to prepare for the efficient operation of the Agreement. Ms Neufeld also engages in several teaching activities - both for the WTO and for several universities - and contributes to various training and outreach initiatives undertaken in cooperation with other intergovernmental organisations, academia and the private sector.



Before joining the WTO, Ms Neufeld worked for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which she joined shortly after having completed her PhD. During her 3 years with this organisation, she held various responsibilities in the areas of research and commercial diplomacy. Other professional experience includes work for a law firm as well as an assignment for the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Ms Neufeld's publications focus on international trade issues.

Background

As tariffs have continued to drop around the globe, attention shifted to the remaining trade barriers on the non-tariff side. Trade facilitation emerged as an increasingly high priority for business and policymakers alike. Seeking to expedite the movement of goods and to cut back on hampering red tape, facilitation reforms have become a key component of international trade policies. In times of globalized manufacturing and just-in-time delivery, they are crucial for improving the competitiveness of enterprises and for successfully integrating production into cross-border value chains.

Global efforts to advance trade facilitation gained momentum when the WTO launched negotiations on a new Agreement in 2004. They were brought to a successful conclusion at the WTO's Ninth Ministerial Conference in December of 2013. Following a subsequent ratification process, the Trade Facilitation Agreement entered into force in February 2017. While its full potential has yet to be reached, the

Agreement already left a significant mark and lifted facilitation reforms to a new level. Its innovative approach to implementation set a new reference point for future multilateral trade agreements.

Main aspects addressed

Part 1

- Motivation, Mission, Mandate: Major milestones in creating the Trade Facilitation Agreement
- What's inside? Main features of the Agreement and underlying objectives

Part 2

- What makes it stand out? Key reforms prescribed by the TFA and their impact
- New philosophies and novel approaches

Part 3

- Where do we go from here? The path towards full implementation of the TFA
- Latest state-of-play and road ahead
- Implications of the current Covid19 crisis

Suggested Reading

- Agreement on Trade Facilitation, [WT/L/931](#) (*does not need to be read cover to cover but will be used as a key reference document*).
- Moisé, Orliac, Minor, "Trade Facilitation Indicators – the Impact on Trade Costs", OECD Trade Policy Working Paper.
- Neufeld, "Implementing the Trade Facilitation Agreement: From Vision to Reality", WTO Working Paper ERSD-2016-14.
- Neufeld, "The Long and Winding Road: How WTO Members finally reached a Trade Facilitation Agreement", WTO Working Paper ERSD-2014-06.
- WTO/ICC/Global Alliance for TF, "The Covid19 Crisis and Trade Facilitation", July 2020, <https://tfafacility.org/sites/default/files/tfacovidsurveyresults.pdf>