

WTO Policy Space & Industrial Policy in Developing Countries

Colette Van der Ven

13 November 2017 (14:00 – 16:00)

Course Description

Despite more than two decades of WTO membership, many developing countries have failed to diversify production and/or establish a vibrant industrial base. As a result, they remain stuck at the lower echelons of global value chains, impeding rapid economic growth.

Against this backdrop, this course aims to familiarize students with the ongoing debate concerning the WTO policy space and developing countries' ability to advance their industrial policy objectives. Specifically, it will provide an overview of policy space under the WTO, and study the interaction between industrial policy and policy space in developing countries. This course will draw upon examples from to illustrate these issues from a practical perspective. The course will conclude with suggestions concerning alternative frameworks from which to approach these issues.

Colette Van der Ven

Colette van der Ven is an associate in the trade group at Sidley Austin, focused on representing countries in litigation at the World Trade Organization. Her practice focuses in particular on

agricultural measures under the SPS Agreement, and the Agreement on Agriculture. Colette is also the Geneva coordinator, and e-commerce advising attorney of Sidley's Emerging Enterprises pro bono program. Colette has previously worked on anti-corruption matters as a summer associate at the World Bank and advised on India's agricultural policy framework with the Acumen Fund in India. Colette has relevant field experience including at the United Nations Khmer Rouge Tribunal in Cambodia and International Bridges to Justice in the Philippines.

Colette holds a joint JD/MPP degree from the Harvard Law School and the Harvard Kennedy School, respectively, a BA from Middlebury College, and is a member of the New York Bar.

Colette's writings, including on trade law, industrial policy and development, have been published in various outlets, including peer reviewed journals.

Suggested Reading Material

- Chang, Ha-Joon. 2003. "Kicking Away the Ladder: Infant Industry Promotion in Historical Perspective." Oxford Development Studies 31 (1): 21-32
- Aggarwal, Vinod, and Simon J. Evenett. 2014. "Do WTO rules preclude industrial policy? Evidence from the global economic crisis", Bus.Polit. 16(4):481-509
- Lamy, Pascal, "Lamy calls for debate on 'flexibility' and what makes good 'policy space'"