



THE GOVERNANCE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE: RESHAPE OR DEMISE?

Organisers:

Bernard Hoekman | Global Governance Programme, EUI

George Papaconstantinou | School of Transnational Governance, EUI

Jean Pisani-Ferry | Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa Chair, EUI

Sala del Capitolo

Badia Fiesolana, Via dei Roccettini, 9 - San Domenico di Fiesole

19-20 JUNE 2018

■ INTRODUCTION

The set of common rules and institutions which has provided the framework for globalization is being reshaped by a combination of tectonic changes in the patterns of interdependence and geopolitical changes affecting both advanced and emerging countries. Multilateralism is confronted with challenges of unprecedented magnitude not seen since World War II. Simultaneously, however, new forms of international cooperation are developing in a series of fields ranging from climate change policy to financial stability.

The Transformation of Global Governance project is a major research and policy analysis endeavour initiated by the European University Institute. Its aim is to decipher the transformation of global governance underway in a series of fields and to assess the effectiveness of the emerging global governance arrangements.

A series of sector- and topic-specific seminars are being organized within the framework of this initiative. Each of them is intended to serve as a platform for interaction between academics, policymakers and practitioners from business and civil society. Lessons from these investigations will be drawn on the occasion of a major concluding conference to be held in autumn 2019. The project will result in a series of research-oriented and policy-oriented outputs.

The importance of trade governance in the broader global governance framework was exemplified by the establishment of GATT as one of the three main pillars of the international economic architecture built after the Second World War. In the 1990s, the creation of its successor, the WTO was seen as a major milestone towards building a comprehensive system of global economic governance. In recent decades, trade governance largely served as a hub for tackling other issues of interdependence.

Despite some successes however, the trade governance framework is confronted to a host of policy challenges:

- The management of deep integration relies increasingly on arrangements developed outside the framework of multilateral rules;
- Trade opening is faced with rising contestation of its own agenda from NGOs and civil society
- The current U.S. administration has openly questioned the very principles upon which the multilateral trade framework is based.

Today, features of a new 21st century trading system are shaping the emergence of a new governance regime. The trade governance framework is one of the most developed in global governance, but it is no longer fit for purpose and its efficiency, inclusivity and legitimacy are increasingly contested. It remains to be seen if it can be bolstered or re-thought, and how.

Against this background, the one-day seminar on trade governance will examine the coordinates of the underlying governance framework and institutions in this area, their evolution over time, the adequacy of the tools at hand and the arrangements which are in place, the governance problems and the different strategies to address them. The focus is on the broader governance norms, arrangements and problems, and not on specific trade negotiation outcomes or trade issues.

■ PROGRAMME

19 JUNE

20.00 - 22.00

Dinner

Guest Speaker: **Lim Hng Kiang** | Former Minister for Trade, Singapore

20 JUNE

09.00 - 09.10

Introduction by **Bernard Hoekman** | EUI and **Jean Pisani-Ferry** | EUI

09.10 - 11.00

First session: Has global trade governance broken down?

Introductory remarks: **Alan Wolff** | WTO and **Mark Wu** | Harvard

11.00 - 11.20

Coffee break

11.20 - 12.40

Second session: Trade structures and trade institutions

Introductory remarks: **Sébastien Jean** | CEPII, Paris

12.40 - 13.40

Lunch

13.40 - 15.00

Third session: Clubs and the new trade governance arrangements

Introductory remarks: **Bernard Hoekman** | EUI

15.00 - 15.20

Coffee break

15.20 - 16.40

Fourth session: Governance implications of the interaction between trade and other policy areas

Introductory remarks: **Robert Howse** | NYU

16.40 - 17.30

Wrap-up session

Introduction: **George Papaconstantinou** | EUI and **Jean Pisani-Ferry** | EUI

■ PARTICIPANTS

Giorgio Barba Navaretti

Suman Bery

Adrien Bradley

Bernard Hoekman

Robert Howse

Sébastien Jean

Knud Erik Jørgenson

Brigid Laffan

Zaki Laïdi

Jean-Pierre Landau

Lim Hng Kiang

Doug Nelson

George Papaconstantinou

Ernst-Ulrich Petersmann

Jean Pisani-Ferry

Miguel Poiares Maduro

Michael G. Plummer

Stefan Profit

Denis Redonnet

André Sapir

Alan Wolff

Mark Wu

Centro Studi Luca d'Agliano

Bruegel

Robert Schuman Centre, EUI

Global Governance Programme, Robert Schuman Centre, EUI

New York University

Centre d'Etudes Prospectives et d'Informations Internationales

Aarhus University

Robert Schuman Centre, EUI

Sciences Po

Banque de France

Former Singapore Minister for Trade

Tulane University

School of Transnational Governance, EUI

Law Department, EUI

Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa Chair holder, Robert Schuman Centre, EUI

School of Transnational Governance, EUI

Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies

German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

DG Trade, European Commission

Bruegel

WTO

Harvard Law School