

World Trade Institute

Annual Report 2021



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From the Managing Director

Like the previous year, 2021 was a challenging year for the university, including the WTI community. For most of the year, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to shape academic life at the institute. Since early 2020, the pandemic has disrupted operations across the university, as well as across our broader research and training network. However, thanks to the dedicated efforts of both staff and students, and despite continued challenges due to the pandemic, 2021 has been an eventful and exciting year on many fronts for the institute.

We have continued our outreach activities and cooperation with our external partners. We have also broadened our reach through webinars and online lectures to a more geographically diverse audience. This includes the Global Economic Governance Seminar Series and the 'Know the GAP' gender lecture series. Our events calendar continues to grow, and you can stay up to date on WTI events by visiting the Events page on our website. You can also check out the Events section in this report for an overview of our 2021 events.

On the scientific front, WTI researchers continue with high-impact publications on the economic, legal, and political challenges faced by the global economy. In addition to ongoing projects on migration, sustainability, foreign investment, and trade policy, we have also started new research projects in 2020-21. This includes work with partners like the OECD and World Bank. The WTI has also consolidated its role as the editorial office for the *World Trade Review*, the academic journal published by Cambridge University Press together with the WTO secretariat. Details on scientific activities at the WTI are summarized in this report.

On the education front, we continue to seek a balance between in person and on-line learning. The technical solutions to COVID-19 (especially on-line learning) offer more options for reaching students. However, we need to ensure students benefit from in person learning where possible. We anticipate a full move back to in person education for our yearlong programs, with continued use of blended learning for our Summer and Winter Academies



and for events. We also continue to deliver tailor-made training programmes to government officials both in Bern and internationally, where online teaching has expanded our outreach opportunities. We also continue to host (frequently online) numerous events and special lectures for students, alumni, diplomats and the public. Details on developments in these programmes, as well as the Doctoral School and Winter and Summer Academies, can be found in the report as well.

Pandemic restrictions have impacted our students in many ways, including how students serve their internships, limitations on academic events, and even basic access to physical facilities. For our graduate students, this has also disrupted and delayed timelines for project completion. These disruptions have eased in the second half of 2021, but challenges remain, and we are working with our students to overcome remaining challenges from COVID-19 disruptions. Members of the WTI community have also faced family challenges linked to the pandemic. I remain proud of how the members of the WTI community have adapted and risen to face these challenges.

We invite you take the opportunity to learn more about our work at the WTI through this annual report. For the most up-to-date information about our institute, including news stories, recent publications and a list of upcoming events, please visit:

www.wti.org

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Joseph Francois'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Joseph Francois
Managing Director
World Trade Institute

The Institute

The World Trade Institute was established in 1999 to train future practitioners and researchers from all over the world and to strengthen research capacities in the field of international trade and investment regulation. The WTI combines graduate-level education and interdisciplinary research in law, economics and political science, as well as specialised advisory services. We recruit students, researchers, faculty and employees from around the world, creating a diverse culture and stimulating environment.

Executive Board



Members of the Advisory Board

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Administration

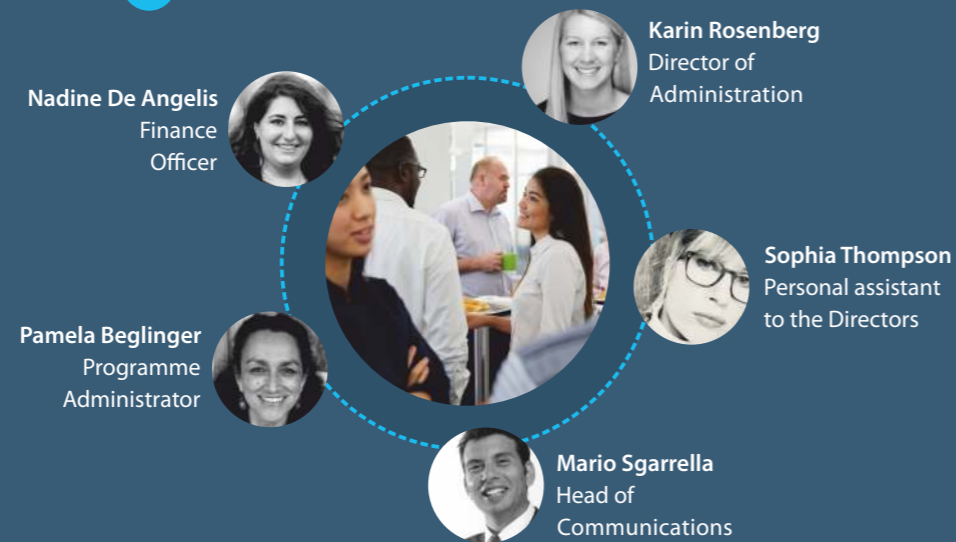


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Highlights of the Year

Research Projects

In June 2021, the WTI launched its new research project: Trade and Democracy (TRADEM). The TRADEM project researches the interconnections between trade agreements and democracy. In particular, it aims to examine more closely how trade agreements affect democratic institutions and processes.

For more information about the new and on-going research projects at the WTI, please visit the **Research section** of this report.

Publications

The World Trade Review (WTR) was established at the initiative of the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in close cooperation with Cambridge University Press. It is an independent journal - the Editor and all but one member of the Editorial Board are drawn from university faculties - that includes articles written from economic, legal, political and inter-disciplinary perspectives on issues of relevance to the multilateral trading system. Priority is given to papers that, along with being academically rigorous, are also accessible to government policy officials and the wider public. The journal also includes shorter articles seeking to rebut or challenge published papers. Since July 2020, the new editorial team to lead the WTR consists of:

- Peter van den Bossche, Professor of International Economic Law at the University of Bern and Director of Studies of the World Trade Institute.
- Manfred Elsig, Professor of International Relations at the University of Bern and Deputy Managing Director of the World Trade Institute.
- Joseph Francois, Professor of International Economics at the University of Bern and Managing Director of the World Trade Institute.
- Mona Pinchis-Paulsen, Assistant Professor of International Economic Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

In 2021, the WTI was pleased to have numerous books, book chapters, articles, datasets and working papers published by our researchers.

All 2021 publications by our researchers can be found on our website:
www.wti.org/research/publications/

Events

In 2021, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the WTI hosted and co-organised a number of online events and activities including workshops, tailor-made trainings, summer academies, doctoral colloquia, special lectures, larger conferences and smaller seminars.

On 22 July 2021, Gabrielle Marceau, Senior Counsellor in the Economic Research and Statistics Division of the WTO, delivered a keynote address on the topic: 'What role the WTO can play in facilitating trade in times of COVID' at the Closing Ceremony of the 2020-21 Advanced Master's Programmes.

On 15 September 2021, Prof. Chang-fa Lo, Permanent Representative of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu before the WTO delivered the keynote lecture on "From Addressing Trade Distortion to Correcting Environmental Distortion: The Fisheries Subsidies Negotiation as the Turning Point of WTO's Task" at the Opening Ceremony of the 2020-21 Advanced Master's Programmes.

The annual World Trade Forum, which the WTI co-organised with the European University Institute (EUI) on 14 and 15 October 2021, was also held online. The main theme was 'Digital, Green and Open? Global Trade Policy at a Crossroads'.

For more details about our events in 2021, please visit the **Events section** of this report.

Outreach

Several capacity building programmes were developed by the WTI in 2021. A three-year project with the University of World Economy and Diplomacy (UWED) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan was launched. The project consists of the design of a WTO law course and capacity-

building activities. For the Secretariat and Member States of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the WTI organised a tailor-made online course on 'The Economics, Law and Policy of Trade in Services'. A capacity-building programme, consisting of then courses, for Saudi government officials working in the field of international trade law and policy was initiated and is to be continued in 2022.

The WTI, together with the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Centre for Development and Environment of the University of Bern (CDE), hosted a roundtable discussion on trade, climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals. Around 50 experts from the Swiss administration, academia, civil society and private industry participated in the event.

For more information about our tailor-made trainings and partnerships, visit the **Outreach section** of this report.

Education

Due to increased interest in the weeklong modules offered in our Summer Academy, the WTI announced in 2018 the creation of the Winter Academy. The Winter and Summer Academies cover cutting-edge trade and investment law and policy issues. They are designed for private and public sector and civil society professionals as well as higher-education students. In 2020 and 2021, the WTI hosted the Summer Academy online and plans to hold both Academies hybrid in the future as well. More information about our weeklong modules can be found in the Graduate Programmes section of this report.

Aylin Yildiz and Anqi Wang, two PhD students at the WTI successfully defended their thesis in Law at the World Trade Institute (WTI). Aylin Yildiz wrote hers under the supervision of Prof. Elisa Fornalé and Dr. Nilüfer Oral about the topic "The International Protection of Persons Mobile in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change". Anqi Wang wrote her thesis under the supervision of Prof. Peter Van den Bossche and Dr. Rodrigo Polanco on the topic "The Interpretation and Application of the Most-Favoured-Nation Clause in Investment Arbitration".

MAS in Trade and Investment Law & DAS in International Law and Economics (TRAIL+)

In 2021, seven students representing five nations finished the coursework of the TRAIL+ programme (TRAIL+ 4) and another eleven students from eight nations embarked on it (TRAIL+ 5).

Established in 2017, the TRAIL+ programme combines a Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Trade and Investment Law (LL.M.) with a Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) in International Law and Economics. This programme is offered in cooperation with the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern. The programme includes more law courses and fewer courses in economics and political science than the MILE programme. A total of 60 ECTS are required to fulfil the LL.M. requirement while an additional 30 ECTS must be completed in the social science courses of the WTI to fulfil the DAS requirement. The in-depth knowledge of the law of international trade and investment combined with the understanding of the related economics and politics, prepares them well for work as lawyers in the public or private sector or as legal scholars.

In 2021, the tuition fee for the TRAIL+ programme was lowered from 21,000 to **18'000 Swiss francs.**

For more information about the TRAIL+ (LL.M.) programme, please visit our website: www.wti.org/education/master/trail

Graduate Programmes

MAS in International Law and Economics (MILE)

In 2021, 13 students representing ten nations finished the coursework of the MILE programme (MILE 21) and another eleven students from ten nations embarked on it (MILE 22).

Established in 1999, the Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in International Law and Economics (MILE) was the first educational offer of the WTI. This programme remains synonymous with the Institute, although it is now just one of a range of programmes offered. This 90 ECTS programme is interdisciplinary in nature and trains students in methodologies and ways of thinking other than those of their initial area of specialisation. The comprehensive knowledge of the law, economics and politics of international trade and investment, prepares them well for work in international organisations, government ministries, academic institutions, global companies and internationally operating law firms.

In 2021, the tuition fee for the MILE programme was lowered from 21,000 to **18'000 Swiss francs.**

For more information about the MILE programme, please visit our website: www.wti.org/education/master/mile

Global Impact Association (GIA)

The newly launched Global Impact Association (GIA) aims to contribute to a better, more sustainable and inclusive system, by developing world-class trade professionals and scholars. The Global Impact Association (GIA) offers several scholarships for talented students from low and middle-income countries to pursue advanced master studies at the World Trade Institute (WTI), one of the world's leading academic institutions in the field of international economics and law.

Visit the official GIA website for more information: global-impact-association.org



CAS/DAS in International Law and Economics

In 2021, 18 persons were pursuing the Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in International Law and Economics.

The CAS and DAS programmes are open to participants with undergraduate degrees and relevant professional experience, with applications being accepted on a rolling basis. Participants who complete 8 ECTS of coursework and write a research paper may be awarded a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in International Law and Economics. Participants who complete 22 ECTS of coursework and write a research paper may be awarded a Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) in International Law and Economics. CAS/DAS students benefit from the mentorship of a senior WTI academic advisor during the duration of their study.

The tuition fee is **4,000 Swiss francs** for the CAS ILE, and **10,000 Swiss francs** for the DAS ILE.

For more information about the CAS ILE and DAS ILE programmes, please visit our website: www.wti.org/education/other/cas-das-programmes

Winter and Summer Academy

Since 2019, the WTI offers both a Winter and Summer Academy. These consist of weekly courses, which are also open to external participants such as Government officials and stakeholders from the international trade community. The WTI's 2021 Winter Academy took place from 25 January until 19 February 2021. Course topics included: WTO Law on Border Management and Trade Facilitation; WTO Law on Anti-Dumping and Safeguard Measures; WTO Law on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures and The Law and Policy of Trade in Services. The Summer Academy ran from 21 June until 16 July 2021 and included courses on: WTO Law on TBT & SPS Measures, Module I: Innovation and Intellectual Property Protection: Foundations and Challenges; Module II: Intellectual Property

and the Digital Economy; Applied General Equilibrium Modelling on Trade Policy and Development; Trade and Agriculture: New Challenges; International Investment Law and Dispute Settlement: Current Developments and Trade and Sustainable Development. 111 externals participated in both academies.

Tuition for one week is **1,200 Swiss francs**, for two weeks **2,200 Swiss francs** and for three weeks **3,200 Swiss francs**.

For more information about the Winter and Summer Academies, please visit our website: www.wti.org/education/other/winter-and-summer-programmes

Doctoral Programme

In 2021, four students were accepted into the WTI Graduate School of Economic Globalisation and Integration to start their PhD research in law and economics.

Anqi Wang and Aylin Yildiz completed and successfully defended their PhD theses. At the end of 2021, the Graduate School comprised 28 PhD students, of whom 15 were women. The majority were law students (16), followed by students of economics (6) and political science (6).

In 2021, the WTI organised two PhD colloquia. Seven students presented their work in March and four students presented their research in September, to receive feedback from their supervisors, WTI faculty, and fellow PhD students. In September 2021, PhD students attended a seminar on effective presentations in English. In December 2021, PhD students attended a seminar on scientific writing.

Following the positive experience with the PhD Summer School in previous years, the WTI offered two week-long PhD Summer and Winter School courses in 2021, namely a course on 'Shaping sustainable trade: what role for international trade law and policy?' by Dominic Coppens, PhD, Senior Associate at Sidley Austin LLP, Brussels and Nicolas Lockhart, Partner at Sidley Austin LLP, Geneva, on 'Globalization, Labor Market & Inequality' by Prof. Douglas Nelson, Professor of Economics at the Murphy

Institute and the Department of Economics at Tulane University, and on 'Trade Negotiations & Techniques' by Maarten Smeets (PhD), Associate Professor at St Petersburg State University and the Shanghai University of International Business and Economics (SUIBE), Senior Associate at the Clingendael Academy (Den Haag). In total, 41 PhD students from Swiss and other European universities attended one or more of the 2021 PhD Summer and Winter School courses.

For more information about the Graduate School of Economic Globalisation and Integration, please visit our website: www.wti.org/education/doctoral-programme

WTI-CWS Joint Academy on International Trade Law and Policy in India

The seventh edition of the Joint Academy on International Trade Law and Policy took place from 7 June to 2 July 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Academy was organised in an online format.

Twenty-four participants from more than fifteen different law schools from all over India

participated in this year's programme alongside legal practitioners.

The four-week Academy consisted of courses on Essentials of WTO Law and Policy, Investment Law, Trade and Intellectual Property Rights, Trade in Services, SPS and TBT, Agreement on Agriculture, the Law and Policy of Trade Remedies and E-Commerce.

As in previous years, the Embassy of Switzerland in India hosted an event during the Academy, this year online. Prof. Peter Van den Bossche, WTI Director of Studies, delivered a lecture on 'The Future of the Multilateral Trading System'.

The annual WTI-CWS Joint Academy was established by the WTI and the Centre for WTO Studies (CWS) of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in 2014. Its objective is to enable law students and legal professionals in India to increase their knowledge of and exposure to issues pertinent to international trade regulation and economic governance. So far, more than 150 Indian law students have been trained in the past years.

For more information on the WTI-CWS Joint Academy, please visit our website: www.wti.org/education/other/winter-and-summer-programmes



Research

WTI researchers are active in the fields of economics, political science, and law. Our research aims to be both highly visible and relevant, and our research portfolio addresses some of the most pressing challenges of international economic cooperation. This includes increasing economic nationalism, a visible backlash against globalization, climate change, migration, and sustainability. In addition, we uphold standards of high research quality and productivity.

The year 2021 marks a point in time where we have seen both the continuation of a number of research projects and the start of new ones. There is also an established pipeline for research projects through roughly 2022/23. A four year assessment (2018-2021) of the overall research activities of the WTI was also completed in 2021¹. The overall research profile of the institute for this period is summarized in the table: "Research projects overview: 2018-2021."

As shown in the table, many of the research projects at the WTI are transdisciplinary in

nature, which means that research questions are developed and inspired by debates in various disciplines, and the scientific approaches are guided by a multitude of research methods and traditions. Overall, our research projects are problem-driven, and our researchers are encouraged to work towards formulating policy recommendations based on their research findings. In what follows, we offer highlights from projects listed in the summary table.

Complexity and the structure and regulation of trade and investment

Following the major advances in information technology that began in the 1990s, the production of goods and services underwent changes that radically altered the world's economic and political landscape. The lower cost of transferring ideas and technology resulted in the fragmentation of production across countries and continents. Simultaneously, countries increasingly turned to bilateral foreign economic policy in order to foster their participation in the global production system. This resulted in a complex web of preferential trade agreements (PTAs) and investment agreements (IAs), which themselves increased in complexity due to the development of provisions included in those agreements. This gave rise to the trade and

¹ World Trade Institute University of Bern Self-Assessment, report to the Universitätsleitung, 2021.



Research projects overview: 2018-2021

Project Title	Funding /Lead (L), Co-Lead (CL)	Time period	Responsibility	Project Budget
Common Concern ¹	SNF, L	2015-18	Thomas Cottier	CHF 520,000
MCCM	SDC	2017-18	Thomas Cottier	CHF 50,000
Doc-CH- Marietta Angeli	ProDoc SNF	2017-19	Manfred Elsig	CHF 292,000
Big DATA and Trade Agreements (together with the University of Lucerne)	SNF, NRP75, CL	2017-20	Manfred Elsig	CHF 183,258
EDIT: The Electronic Database of Investment Treaties	World Bank, L	2018-20	Manfred Elsig	CHF 25,000
Global Value Chains And Provisions In PTAs	OECD, L	2018-20	Manfred Elsig	CHF 70,000
Marie-Curie Fellowship, Aydin Yildirim	EU, H2020	2019-21	Manfred Elsig	CHF 200,000
Trade and Democracy	SNF	2021-25	Manfred Elsig	CHF 599,132
ID Grant	UNIBE	2021-21	Manfred Elsig	CHF 89,500
Economic Globalization Under Threat (seed money)	SNF (SERI)	2021-21	Manfred Elsig	CHF 27,420
CLISEL Climate Security with Local Authorities ¹	EU, H2020, L	2016-19	Elisa Fornalé	EUR 851,000
SNF Förderprofessur Elisa Fornalé, Common Concern ¹	SNF	2017-21	Elisa Fornalé	CHF 906,215
SNF Professorship Prolongation 2 years ¹	SNF	2021-23	Elisa Fornalé	CHF 437,539
Gender Equality in the Mirror (GEM): Clothing the Invisibility of Women's Participation at International Level	SNF	2021-23	Elisa Fornalé	CHF 346,000
Productivity, Non-Tariff Measures and Openness (PRONTO) ²	EU, FP7, L	2014-18	Joseph Francois	EUR 2,400,000
R4D Employment Effects ²	SNF/DEZA, L	2014-18	Joseph Francois	CHF 1,950,000
Complexity and the Structure and Regulation of Trade and Investment	SNF, L	2017-22	Joseph Francois	CHF 465,220
Switzerland's Sustainability Footprint: Economic and Legal Challenges ¹	SNF, NRP73, L	2017-22	Joseph Francois	CHF 863,950
Realizing Europe's Soft Power in External Cooperation and Trade (RESPECT) ¹	EU, H2020	2018-21	Joseph Francois	EUR 400,000
Regulatory Heterogeneity in International Trade: From Measures to Systems	SNF, L	2018-22	Joseph Francois	CHF 636,238
BATMODEL - better agri-food trade modeling for policy analysis	EU, H2020	2020-24	Joseph Francois	EUR 290,000
SNF Förderprofessur Damian Raess, BRICS	SNF	2017-21	Damian Raess	CHF 1,237,618
SNF Professorship Prolongation 1 year	SNF	2021-22	Damian Raess	CHF 300,700
Labor standards compliance and buyer-supplier linkages in global supply chains	SNF	2021-23	Damian Raess	CHF 242,848
Totals				
Project budget total		All years		CHF 13,896,808
of which sustainability/climate		All years		CHF 4,103,804
Total WTI funding for 2018-21 ³		2018-21		CHF 7,461,583
Annual Average WTI 2018-21 ³		2018-21		CHF 1,866,396

¹ Projects on sustainability and climate policy.

² These are research consortium grants, where the WTI served as the lead institution. The approximate WTI budget share of these projects is 35%.

³ Excludes networking funding for partners.

investment development nexus, which is the objective of analysis of the project.

This four year project has focused on supply chains and the structure of trade. It was completed in 2021. The main objective of the project has been analysis of relationships between changes in the institutional architecture governing trade and investment flows and the emergence of Global Value Chains (GVCs). The first year of the project was dedicated to the processing and merging of different data sources and to a comprehensive literature review of different methodologies and concepts used in computer science and biology to characterise complex systems. Databases of PTAs (DESTA) and IAs (EDIT) were integrated and analysed. The exercise has provided a comprehensive and holistic descriptive view of the different modes of institutional regional integration that govern trade and investment flows. On the investment and trade flows side, recent advances in disaggregating gross bilateral trade into value added components at the sectoral level were reviewed and applied to multiregional input-output data. Following this initial phase of the project, the relation between the evolution of countries' positions in the complex world economic production system and their policies was further analysed.

The project has been under the leadership of Prof. Joseph Francois, and is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). It ran from 2017 to 2021 with a budget envelope of 465,220 Swiss francs. The data developed in the project are feeding into ongoing PhD research projects at the WTI.

Electronic Database of Investment Treaties (EDIT)

The Electronic Database of Investment Treaties (EDIT) is a new comprehensive full text database on international investment agreements (IIAs). It is meant to facilitate informed public discourse, evidence-based reform, and academic study of the international investment regime by providing unprecedented access to the most extensive set of IIA texts to date.

As a fully machine-readable database, EDIT allows for efficient search through all IIAs, including through pre-defined content categories. All texts have been standardised and are now available in one single language

(English) and format (XML and XHTML). In addition, EDIT embraces a Wiki model, whereby users can correct and help improve the data.

Treaty texts were collected, digitised and non-English texts translated through machine translation software. Articles and paragraphs of the agreements were categorised using different techniques (automated labelling and based on a keyword dictionary, as well as on manual annotation).

The project used texts and metadata of international investment agreements (IIAs) found in governmental webpages, as well as in open databases, and transformed them into a machine-readable format that allows analysis on the article, chapter or treaty-level of the IIAs texts. In the process of collecting these agreements, the project team found some 'missing investment treaties' that were not previously available in other databases. All IIAs that were not found in English were translated into that language, using machine and manual translation.

Following a Wiki model, registered users can add further content features to crowdsource the mapping of IIAs. All available texts of IIAs are included in EDIT, regardless of whether or not they are currently in force. Through this database, the project team aims to support researchers, scholars, students, practitioners, international organisations, policy-makers, civil society members and other stakeholders in their work and studies concerning international investment law. The website is an on-going collaborative effort that can involve academia and international organisations. EDIT texts allow for content annotation. The database provides a first annotation layer that allows users to search for standard provisions.

The EDIT webpage is available as a free service by the WTI at www.edit.wti.org/. EDIT was originally developed during the implementation of the SNIS-funded project 'Diffusion of International Law: A Textual Analysis of International Investment Agreements' (2015–2017), in cooperation with the University of Ottawa (Prof. Wolfgang Alschner) through funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Australian National University (through funding from of the Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), and the World Bank. Ongoing work has also been sponsored by the OECD. Prof. Manfred Elsig and Dr Rodrigo Polanco are co-leaders of EDIT.



Further information: Alschner, W., Elsig, M., & Polanco, R. (2021). Introducing the Electronic Database of Investment Treaties (EDIT): The Genesis of a New Database and Its Use. *World Trade Review*, 20(1), 73-94. doi:10.1017/S147474562000035X

Global Value Chains and Provisions in Preferential Trade Agreements

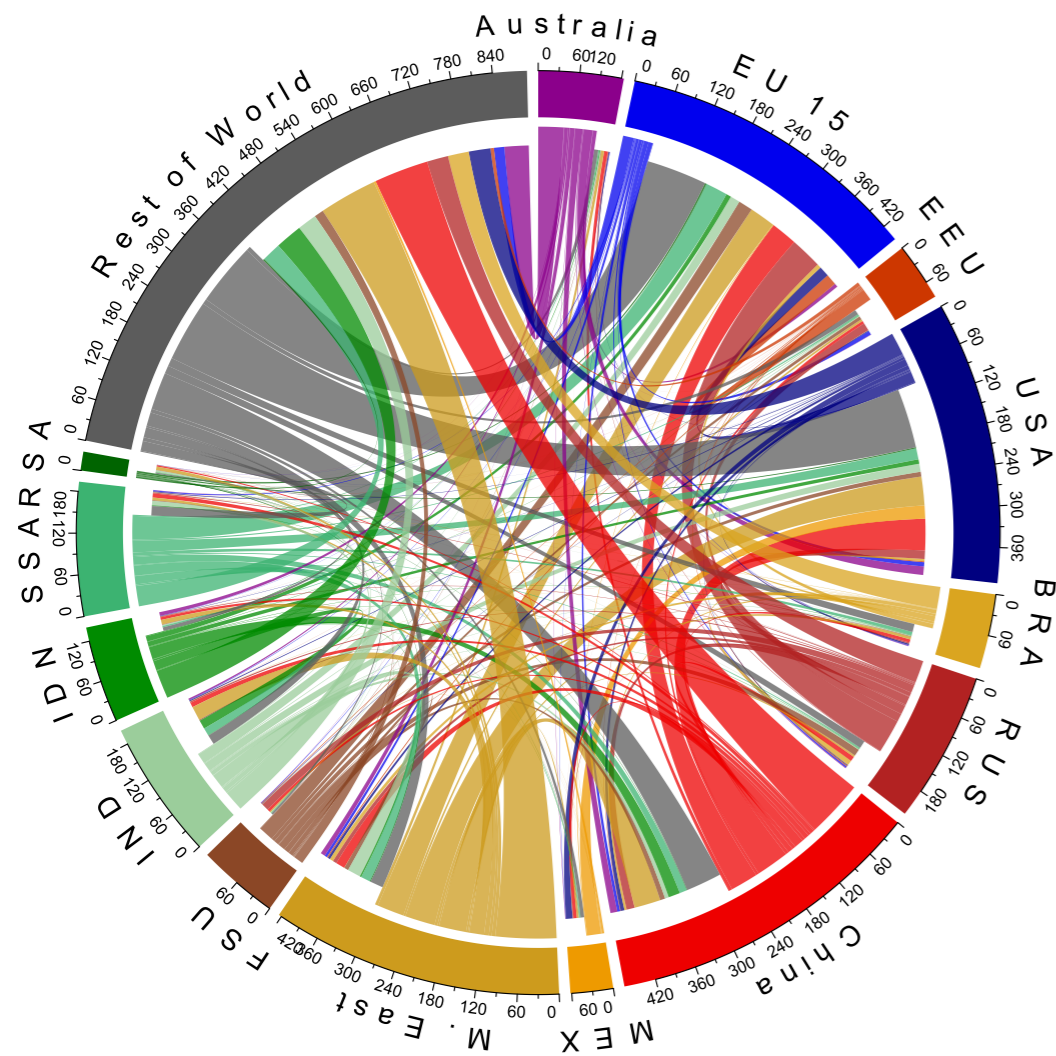
Global value chains (GVCs) of multinational enterprises are complex and encompass different cross-border supply relationships that include various forms of trade, investment, and strategic partnerships. Yet, the complexity of these relationships and their interactions are not always fully understood, and there is a widespread perception that they may not be comprehensively and coherently addressed in international frameworks such as preferential trade agreements (PTAs). The objective of this project is to develop a more comprehensive and nuanced coding of GVC-related provisions

in PTAs, and to assess their coherence across relevant provisions as well as between agreements.

The project is under the supervision of Professor Manfred Elsig and builds on the existing Design of Trade Agreements (DESTA) dataset. It uses inputs from the EDIT dataset on bilateral investment treaties, and the Big Data project, particularly the database entitled "Trade Agreement Provisions on E-commerce and Data Flows" (TAPED).

The project has coded over 210 variables related to GVCs in PTAs such as investment chapters, provisions on market access for goods and services, entry of business persons, e-commerce and data flows, capital movement and exchange rates, intellectual property rights, regulatory cooperation, and transparency and competition, in over 690 PTAs.

The data is disseminated through the DESTA database (www.designoftradeagreements.org/), in collaboration with colleagues at the OECD.



Traded methane emissions by region of origin and destination 2014

Note: The circle-plots show traded methane emissions accruing to consumption. The outer circle shows the sum of traded methane emissions (imports and exports) of origin and destination region in megatonnes (Mt) of CO₂ equivalents (100y) for the year 2014. The reported flows account for global value chains.

NRP 73 - Switzerland's Sustainability Footprint: Economic and Legal Challenges

Understanding GVC linkages to resource and emissions flows will be important to the effective implementation of policies such as carbon border adjustment taxes. This is a key element of this project. The research project is part of the Swiss National Research Program "Sustainable Economy: resource-friendly, future-oriented, innovative" (NRP 73) and is led by Prof. Joseph Francois and co-led by Dr. Octavio Fernández-Amador. It is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. The project runs from 2017 through 2022 and has base funding of 863,950 Swiss francs.

The project team has collaborated with the World Trade Organization in the development of carbon dioxide, methane and energy

projections, and has been collaborating with the OECD in the measurement of cross-border carbon flows for economic modeling at the OECD. The WTI team has also developed and revised datasets on what are called "environmental footprint" inventories. This includes data on energy, CO₂ and methane emissions, forest and land use and water use. The data contain indicators based on territorial production, final production, and consumption patterns for the years 1997, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2011, and 2014, with ongoing updating underway for 2017 and 2019. Additionally, Swiss cantonal input output and environmental accounts have been developed for the same years. The data will be published on an open source data hosting platform at the end of 2022. Applied analysis using the project datasets has resulted in publications in Ecological Economics and Empirical Economics.

Ongoing research includes modeling of future resource inventories, as well as linkages between embodied emissions flows and European energy policies.

Legal research under the project includes a case study on Swiss-based private sustainability standards with environmental requirements. A core aim of this analysis is to provide recommendations for a Swiss negotiating position on green labeling in relevant WTO committees. Here, the project team has performed a two-fold legal analysis: (1) a qualitative analysis of the landscape of Swiss private sustainability standards; (2) an investigation into whether government incentives for adoption and implementation of standards can be identified. A key question is the WTO compatibility of such schemes. The results indicate substantial sectoral differences with respect to Swiss-based private sustainability standards and their WTO consistency. These distinctions correlate with state measures restricting foreign competition in the Swiss market. Trade concerns arise especially in the areas of agriculture and cosmetics. In addition, the majority of Swiss-based private sustainability standards in place exclude foreign products from certification.

The WTI project team has also participated in several outreach activities in the past year. The results of the project were presented in the Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (SSES), Online Event, June 2021, and in the Annual Meeting of the Austrian Economic Association (NOeG), June 2021. The World Trade Institute, represented by the team of researchers, also continues as a member of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Switzerland.

Heterogeneity - Regulatory Heterogeneity in International Trade

The past 50 years have seen unparalleled reductions in tariff barriers to international trade. As a result, we have seen a shift in attention to so-called non-tariff measures (NTMs). The potential gains from reducing trade frictions in this area are expected to be very significant, particularly for small and medium-sized companies, which has put NTMs on the modern trade policy agenda.

In contrast to tariffs, trade frictions induced by NTMs are not necessarily caused by border measures per se, but are the result of

differences in the types of regulations set by countries. Oftentimes these have a *raison d'être* other than regulating trade, which makes it not only more complex for trade negotiators as a substance matter, but also politically sensitive. Furthermore, regulatory measures may not exist in isolation but are instead dependent on other measures – together forming a "system" of regulations.

This research project studies heterogeneity and system aspects of NTMs and their impact on international trade flows. Four research questions frame the project:

- How can we aggregate NTM data in order to obtain a bilateral indicator that not only reflects the heterogeneity of regulatory "systems" but also includes aspects of measure interdependencies?
- What is the impact of regulatory heterogeneity on international trade flows?
- Is regulatory heterogeneity (or similarity for that matter) a predictor for the depth of trade agreements?
- How can information on NTM interdependencies and regulatory heterogeneity help us to design trade policy scenarios?

Thus, the first stage of the project has been concerned with finding alternative measures of NTMs and improving the way they are aggregated in order to quantify regulatory profiles. In this regard, a database has been developed that will be published on an open source platform at the end of the project. This data is comprised of different NTM indicators currently applied in the literature at several aggregation. This includes well-established descriptive indicators as well as more recently developed measures of regulatory distance. NTM patterns have been identified via principal component analysis and clustering techniques. In later stages of the project, these indicators are used to analyse their impact on trade as well as to improve the way we formulate trade policy scenarios in impact assessments. Overall, the project participants aim to make contributions to the trade cost literature and advance relatively scarce findings on regulatory heterogeneity and its impact on trade policy outcomes. The work can help inform the debate around 21st century trade agreements.

This project runs from 2018-2022 and has funding of 636,238 Swiss francs.

RESPECT - Realising Europe's soft power in external cooperation and trade

The WTI has been a partner in the EU's Horizon 2020 project RESPECT (Realizing Europe's Soft Power in External Cooperation and Trade). The project examined the effectiveness of EU trade and investment agreements in achieving external policy objectives, especially as related to environmental, social, and energy security objectives. The WTI team has focused on the development and analysis of measurements (indicators) of non-trade policy objectives (NTPOs), as well as data on the provisions in trade agreements related to NTPOs. The aim has been to provide better guidance on coherence between objectives and the instruments used. Work is underway to host these data on an open source platform.

The wide array of different measures and their interaction makes establishing cause and effect relationships particularly challenging. Thus, complementary to the quantitative analysis, case studies and policy-specific analyses have been used to expand the evidence based on the effectiveness of using trade and investment agreements for achieving NTPOs. The RESPECT project has also provided a framework for organizing sessions and an edited volume for the World Trade Forum. This has been done together with the European University Institute (EUI) and marks one of many areas of cooperation with the EUI.

The project databases developed by the WTI team are available from this link: respect.eui.eu/data/

The dataset "Non-trade Issues in EU Preferential Trade Agreements" covers non-trade issues (NTIs), such as civil and political rights (CPR), economic and social rights (ESR), environmental protection (EP), and security issues in 665 preferential trade agreements (PTAs) signed between 1945 and 2018. The database "non-trade policy outcome indicators" covers an extensive range of non-trade policy outcomes grouped along four main categories: (1) economics and social rights, (2) political and civil rights, (3) environmental issues, and (4) security issues. The data covers the period from 1960 to 2018 for 217 countries.

This project ran from 2018-2021 and the WTI had funding of 396,081 Euros.

BRICS - Globalization and Labor Protections in Advanced and Emerging Economies

This research project primarily focused on conditions of outward foreign investment from the emerging economies of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and the extent to which it leads to 1) a "race to the top" in labour standards in the investing countries and 2) a "race to the bottom" in labour standards in the invested countries. It further investigated responses in countries that are engaging China economically, including government reactions and attitudes of private citizens.

The project was led by SNSF Prof. Damian Raess with funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation (grant no. PP00P1_198904; CHF 300'720 for the year 2021). Team members included Dr. Patrick Wagner (postdoctoral researcher) and Alexandra Eugster (research assistant). In 2021, Wanlin Ren and Patrick Wagner completed their PhD dissertations written within the project. In addition to the dissertations, the project also yielded a number of working papers and refereed publications, as well as an edited volume on the Politics of Preferential Trade Liberalization with China (co-edited by Damien Raess, with Prof. Henry Gao and Prof. Ka Zeng).

PROSPER - Politics of Rule-making, Orchestration of Standards and Private Economic Regulations

PROSPER is a 2-year interdisciplinary project which started in September 2019 and was funded by the European Commission under the European Union Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship Programme. Its objective has been to understand how and under which conditions multinational companies (MNCs) can influence rules and standards in the global trade regime.

PROSPER mainly examined the extent to which MNCs are able to orchestrate political mobilization of their subsidiaries for coordinated lobbying and impose rules and

standards upon firms along their supply chains. The theory proposed by the project suggests that firms' globalization strategies and their degree of integration into global production networks significantly affect their ability to be active in shaping global rules and standards.

PROSPER employed a mixed-method research design using quantitative analysis and in-depth case studies. The project constructed a comprehensive new dataset of MNCs and triangulated the results achieved through statistical analysis via comparative cases studies.

The project was run by Dr. Aydin Yildirim and hosted by the WTI.

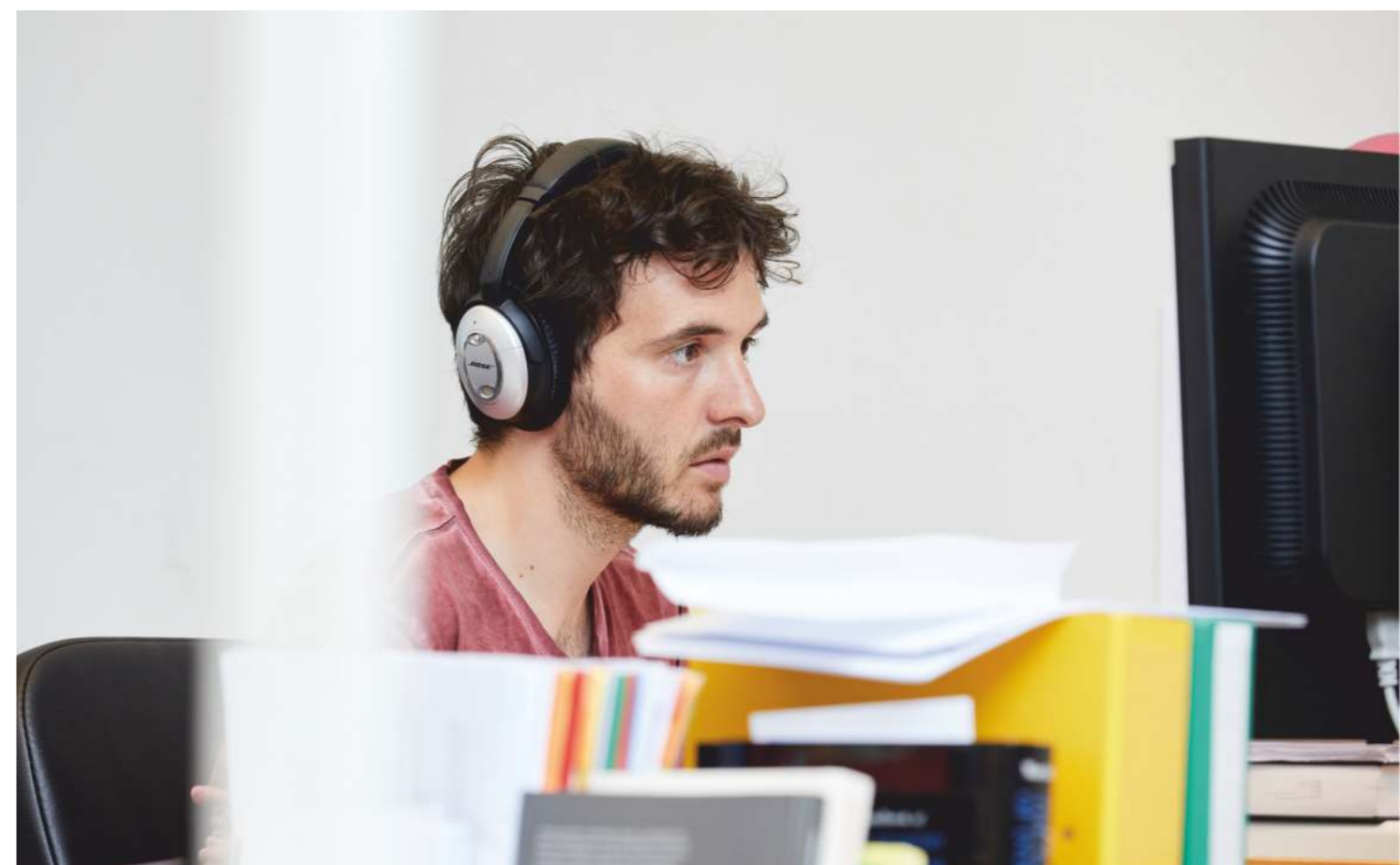
This project ran from 2019-2021 and had funding of 191,149 Euros.

Framing Environmental Degradation, Human Mobility and Human Development as a Matter of Common Concern (CLI_M_CO2)

This research project, led by SNSF Prof. Elisa Fornalé, is part of an SNS research professorship. It approaches international migration in the context of environmental

degradation by conceptualising the issue as a 'common concern of humankind'. In order to contextualise its theoretical approach, the project selected the Pacific Island Countries and Territories as a case study. During the year of 2018, the project team carried out fieldwork research in Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati and New Zealand. In-depth interviews were held with key stakeholders who are active in the fields of climate change, human mobility and human rights at the international, regional and local levels. The data collected is complementing the analysis of the legal instruments regarding the environment and human mobility, as well as the conceptualisation of the doctrine of common concern of humankind. In addition, Aylin Yildiz Noorda contributed to the digital archive of environment-related migration cases (geo-archive). Aylin's contribution critically describes the relocation of the Vunidogloa village – the first climate change-induced community relocation in Fiji.

The project team is involved in the review process of the UN Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. As a result, team members have submitted two commentaries on Objective 2, 5 and 18 of the mentioned compact. In 2021 the project leader, Prof. Elisa Fornalé, was appointed as Co-Rapporteur of the International Law Association Committee



focusing on the Protection of Affected Persons in the Context of Sea Level Rise

Team members have presented at various conferences that focus on sustainable development. Prof. Fornalé as member of the International Law Association Committee on “International Law and Sea-Level Rise” attended its intermediary meeting in October 2020. Her active participation will inform the final report of the ILA Committee in 2022 and it complement the efforts made by other international initiatives, in particular by the United Nations International Law Commission Study Group on “Sea Level Rise in International Law” established in 2019 to address issues related to the protection of people affected by sea-level rise. Aylin Yildiz received a scholarship for the 79th Biennial Conference of the International Law Association (ILA), held in December 2020.

The project has yielded peer reviewed publications (articles and book chapters), policy briefs, and data (in the form of interactive maps) on multilevel migration governance. The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) funds the project. It runs from 2017-2022 and has funding of 1,333,000 Swiss francs.

More information on the project is available at: www.climco2.org

Trade and Democracy (TRADEM)

This project studies the conditions under which treaties are democracy-enhancing and compare these to conditions that are democracy-hindering. Providing better data and exploring and testing more nuanced causal relationships will help policy-makers better understand the observable democratization effects of trade agreements. The project’s main objective is to develop new and test existing arguments related to the types of outside-in effects through trade agreements that lead to positive or negative effects for various types of democracy parameters.

In its first year, the team worked on creating a specific data corpus on PTA legal texts. This is done in close cooperation with the University of Salzburg as part of the DESTA project. In addition, a WTO-corpus is developed which focuses on two particular areas where

BATMODEL

The BATmodel project (Better Agri-food Trade Modelling for Policy Analysis) runs for 4 years (2020-2024). It aims to create better cross-border agricultural trade models, thus helping decision-makers to achieve better outcomes in multilateral and regional agreements. The project aims in particular to address shortcomings of current modelling tools with better treatment of non-tariff measures. The project includes 15 organizations and research institutes from 10 European countries. The WTI team is focused on: (i) measurement of regulatory divergence in agri-food products; (ii) quantifying the impact of current regulatory barriers to agri-food trade (in particular SPS and TBT measures); and (iii) modelling the impact of reducing NTMs on agri-food trade.

Further project information is available at this link: batmodel.org

The WTI team is directed by Professor Joseph Francois. It is funded by the European Commission, runs for 4 years from 2020-2024, with a budget for the WTI of €290.000.

democracy-related discussions can be observed (accession negotiations as well as the Secretariat’s regular assessment of WTO members trade policies (so-called trade policy review mechanism).

The project is under the leadership of Manfred Elsig and involves the team members Kirthana Ganeson, Andrew Lugg, and Marine Roux.



Outreach

The WTI Network

The WTI cooperates with leading universities and institutes through memoranda of understanding and collaborative projects, carrying out joint research and teaching programmes. Students pre-selected by our partner universities benefit from a preferential tuition fee for the MILE and TRAIL+ programmes. In 2021, the WTI concluded new agreements with the University of World Economy and Diplomacy (UWED), Tashkent, Uzbekistan and the General Authority of Foreign Trade (GAFT) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Off-Campus Teaching and Capacity Building Programmes

Besides its graduate programmes, the WTI also organises tailor-made courses and workshops for policy-makers and government officials, as well as courses for students at other universities. These programmes range from highly individualised consultative workshops to practice-oriented courses on applied trade regulation or policy, and academic seminars on trade policy modelling and principles. In 2021, a three-year project with the UWED in Tashkent, Uzbekistan was launched. The project consists of the design of a WTO law course and capacity-building activities. It is led by Prof. Peter Van den Bossche and conducted by a team of internal and external WTI faculty members. The WTI also offered a tailor-made online course for the Secretariat and Member States of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) on “The Economics, Law and Policy of Trade in Services”. The course was taught by WTI faculty members, Mr Pierre

For more information, please visit the Outreach section of our website: www.wti.org/outreach/outreach-activities and www.wti.org/outreach/outreach-activities/advisory-services

Sauvé and Mr Jan Bohanes. The WTI also initiated a capacity-building programme for Saudi government officials working in the field of international trade law and policy. This comprehensive programme is divided into ten courses covering the most important topics in international economic law and policy. It is taught by WTI faculty members who are leading experts in the field.

The four-week Joint Academy on International Trade Law and Policy, which has been organised with the Centre for WTO Studies of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in New Delhi on an annual basis since 2014, was once again organised online in 2021, due to the pandemic. WTI faculty members taught courses for Master students at the University of Padua, the College of Europe in Brugge, LUISS Rome, Maastricht University and the University of Geneva.

Policy Research

The WTI conducts applied research for a range of public and private institutions in the fields of international trade and investment. WTI experts are actively engaged in providing opinions and advice on topics such as impact assessment of preferential trade agreements, “gap analysis” of investment laws and policies, WTO reform and accession.



WTI Managing Director Joseph Francois delivering a speech at the Closing Ceremony of 2020-2021

Sponsorship

In 2021, the WTI sponsored the **John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition (formerly EMC²)**.

The winning teams of the regional round and final oral round were awarded scholarships to the WTI Summer or Winter Academy. The best orator at the final oral round was awarded a full tuition waiver for the TRAIL+ (LLM) programme at the WTI.

Dissemination

The WTI participated in local, national and international policy discussions and debates. It also regularly organised lectures in the context of the Global Economic Governance Seminar Series. These lectures were open to the public and attracted considerable attention. The WTI Gender Team continued the “Know the GAP” gender lecture series with a focus on gender, equality and diversity. Due to the COVID situation, all these lectures were organised in a hybrid format and attracted participants from across Switzerland and around the world.

The WTI, together with the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Centre for Development and Environment of the University of Bern (CDE), hosted a roundtable discussion on trade, climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals. Around 50 experts from the Swiss administration, academia, civil society and private industry participated in the event.

Jointly with the Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), two virtual events on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement were organised.

The WTI’s management and researchers have also been regularly involved in debates and interviews with Swiss and international media. The relevant articles can be found in the media section of the WTI’s website. As in previous years, the WTI co-organised the annual World Trade Forum with the European University Institute in Florence. In 2021 the topic was “Digital, Green and Open? Global Trade Policy at a Crossroads”. The WTI also hosted a virtual conference for the World Trade Forum Book Track Sessions on ‘China and the WTO: 20 years on’. It was co-organised by Henry Gao (Singapore Management University), Damian Raess (World Trade Institute) and Ka Zeng (University of Arkansas).

On 1 November, WTI Director of Studies Prof Peter van den Bossche delivered the keynote address at the 20th Anniversary webinar of the ACWL (Advisory Centre on WTO Law)





Faculty Global Economic Governance Seminar Series and Talking Gender, Equality, and Diversity Lecture Series

- Bungenberg, Marc, Director of the Europa Institute and Professor of Public Law, European Law and Public International Law at Saarland University
- Castellano, Letizia, Policy Officer, Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission
- Chambovey, Didier, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to WTO
- D'Amico, Marilisa, Professor of Constitutional Law, Vice-rector, University of Milan
- Florez Ocampo, Claudia Liliana, Minister Councillor at the Colombian Embassy to Switzerland and Liechtenstein
- Marceau, Gabrielle, Associate Professor, University of Geneva; Senior Counsellor, Economic Research Division, WTO Secretariat
- Mariani, Paola, Associate Professor of International Law, Bocconi University
- Mene, Wamkele, Secretary-General of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat
- Oder, Bertil Emrah, Professor of Constitutional Law, UNESCO Chairholder on Gender Equality and Sustainable Development, Dekan / Dean, Koç University Law School
- Piper, Nicola, British Academy Global Professor Fellow, Queen Mary University of London's School of Law
- Sacerdoti, Giorgio, Professor Emeritus of International Law, Bocconi University
- Singh, Nalini, Feminist, Human Rights Activist and Director of the Fiji Women's Rights Movement
- Weigold Schultz, Eva, Chargé d'Affaires at the Embassy of the United States to Switzerland and Liechtenstein
- Wills, Santiago, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the WTO

Events

In addition to Brown Bag seminars, doctoral colloquia, workshops and conferences in the first quarter of the year, the WTI hosted or took part in numerous online events in 2021.

The **"Know the GAP" Gender lectures**, organised by the WTI's Gender Team, continued to shed light on topics related to gender equality. Speakers included Prof. Marilisa D'Amico, Dr Jamie L. Gloor, Prof. Nicola Piper, Dr Letizia Castellano, Prof. Bertil Emrah Oder, Mrs Sofia Alejandra Gaviria Correa, Claudia Liliana Florez Ocampo, Eva Weigold Schultz, and Nalini Singh. The recorded lectures are available as podcasts on our website.

The WTI continued its **Global Economic Governance (GEG) Seminar Series** in 2021. Some of the seminars were held on site, while others had to switch to an online format due to the pandemic. Speakers included H.E. Ambassador Didier Chambovey, Paola Mariani, Wamkele Mene, H.E. Ambassador Santiago Wills, Gabrielle Marceau, and Marc Bungenberg. Of special mention is the GEG webinar that started off the GEG Seminar Series. It was co-hosted by the World Trade Institute (WTI) and the Asian Center for WTO & International Health Law and Policy of NTU College of Law (ACWH). The topic discussed by high-level panellists was **"Special and Differential Treatment for Developing Country Members in WTO Negotiations: Searching for a**

WTI Director of Studies Prof Peter Van den Bossche delivering a speech at the Closing Ceremony of 2020-2021



On 13 September 2021, long-standing WTI External Faculty member Mira Burri received an award by the Government Council of Lucerne for all her achievements in research and teaching.



Sustainable Solution". The purpose of these seminars is to allow students and interested public to benefit from the insights and personal experience of the experts invited, and to engage in discussions with the experts as well as among themselves on the aspects of global economic governance addressed.

In June 2021, the WTI, together with the State's Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE) of the University of Bern, hosted a **roundtable discussion on trade, climate change and the SDGs**. Many WTI affiliates attended the event and acted as speakers or moderators, including Prof. Em. Thomas Cottier, WTI Director of Studies Peter Van den Bossche, Ilaria Espa and Zaker Ahmad. This event was the first of its kind and the aim of the participants from science, civil society, business and administration was to illuminate various aspects of this timely issue from a holistic sustainability perspective.

In the second half of November 2021, the WTI's Director of Studies Prof. Van den Bossche engaged in a number of activities.

On 17 November 2021, he gave an online guest lecture on **"The World Trade Organization: its Past, Present and Future"**, in the context of the master's course on International Organizations Law at the Kuwait International Law School (KILAW), Kuwait.

On 19 November 2021, he gave a two-hour online lecture on **"The European Union, the WTO and WTO Law"** to participants in the training programme of the European External Action Service (EEAS), organized by the European Institute for Public Administration (EIPA).



The same day he participated in a webinar on **"The Appellate Body Crisis and Dispute Resolution: What is the Future of the WTO's Crown Jewel?"**, organised by the Business and Government Professional Interest Council, Harvard Kennedy School. In December 2021, in light of the COVID-19 health crisis, the University of Bern's Multidisciplinary Center for Infectious Diseases (MCID) organised an event focusing the appearance of the SARS-CoV-2 variant Omicron. Prof. Joseph Francois, the WTI's Managing Director, acted as one of the panellists and discussed the effects of COVID on trade.

Also in December 2021, a **roundtable discussion** on the future of the multilateral trading system featuring ambassadors, high-level trade policy makers, negotiators, and academics marked the concluding part of Dr. Maarten Smeets' PhD course **"Trade Negotiations & Techniques"**. The discussion among the panellists offered constructive and innovative suggestions on the ways forward to reforming the multilateral trading system, opening markets and liberalising trade in a sustainable and inclusive manner.



The Thomas Cottier Award for Best Thesis was awarded to MILE 20 alumna Marianna Henud Cresci from Brazil

(top photo) Class picture in the time of a global pandemic the class of 2020-2021 with WTI Staff members

On 22 July 2021, the Closing Ceremony of the 2020-2021 Advanced Master's Programmes took place in a hybrid format and was organised in respect of hygiene and distancing rules in place. Prof. Peter Van den Bossche, WTI Director of Studies, made the opening remarks, which were followed by a keynote address delivered by Gabrielle Marceau, Senior Counsellor in the Economic Research and Statistics Division of the WTO. Her speech was titled, **"What role the WTO can play in facilitating trade in times of COVID"**. The Thomas Cottier Award for Best Thesis was presented to MILE 20 alumna Marianna Henud Cresci from Brazil. The title of her thesis is **"Can WTO Rules, Disciplines and Incentives Contribute to Fish Stocks Conservation?"** and was supervised by Christian Häberli. The award is presented annually to one MILE or TRAIL+ student for the best thesis submitted. Per tradition, this year's class representative, Stella Nakwanyi Nalwoga from Uganda, gave a creative farewell speech to her fellow classmates. Right after the speech, the students were presented with their MILE stones. The ceremony was live-streamed and was followed by a COVID-19 conform Farewell Lunch at the

Restaurant Rosengarten for students and WTI staff members.

On 15 September 2021, the 2021-22 class of MILE and TRAIL+ students were officially welcomed by the WTI. The new students come from Albania, Angola, Argentina, Burkina Faso, Brazil, China, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa, Switzerland, Taiwan and Uganda. Some of the new students were able to attend the induction days on site while the remaining students joined in online. Prof. Chang-fa Lo, Permanent Representative of the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu before the WTO delivered a keynote speech on **"From Addressing Trade Distortion to Correcting Environmental Distortion: The Fisheries Subsidies Negotiation as the Turning Point of WTO's Task"**.

In 2021, the annual World Trade Forum, jointly organised by the WTI and the European University Institute (EUI) was held in a hybrid format. This yearly gathering brings together trade experts and policy makers to discuss a particular topic in international trade. The theme of the **2021 World Trade Forum** was **"Digital, green and open? Global Trade policy at crossroads"**.

For a full list of our events in 2021, please visit our website:
www.wti.org/outreach/events

On 23 June 2021, the WTI, together with the State's Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE) of the University of Bern, hosted a roundtable discussion on trade, climate change and the SDGs



Alumni

As of 2021, the WTI alumni and student body comprised 606 current and former students from 108 countries, including the 24 enrolled in the MILE 22/TRAIL+5 programmes. Many MILE and TRAIL+ alumni have launched highly successful careers following graduation – often starting with an internship at an international organisation in Geneva. Around 20% of our MILE and TRAIL+ alumni work for international organisations (e.g. WTO, UNCTAD, ITC, ACWL, and UNECE). Approximately 25% are employed by their respective governments (frequently in trade, foreign or economic ministries). Roughly 40% work in the private sector (e.g. Deloitte, EY, Credit Suisse, Sidera Consult, and Price Waterhouse Coopers), for international law firms (e.g. Van Bael & Bellis, White & Case, Webber Wentzel, and Hausfeld), or as independent consultants. Some 5% are employed by non-governmental organisations (e.g. Avenir Suisse, World Economic Forum, and WWF) and associations (e.g. Eurometaux and

CELCAA), and a further 10% of graduates pursue an academic career.

The WTI takes pride in the careers of its alumni and makes efforts to maintain close relationships with them through regular communication and event organisation. In the past few years, several alumni networking meetings have taken place in different parts of the world. Many of the alumni represent the WTI as panellists in international trade law moot court competitions such as the John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition.

Since 2015, the WTI, through its alumni network, has organised a mentoring programme in which alumni support current students to establish themselves in their professional lives. The mentoring programme is seen as a core element of the WTI's alumni strategy, as it links current students with alumni on a thematic or regional basis. In the five years up to the end of 2021, 75 mentoring groups

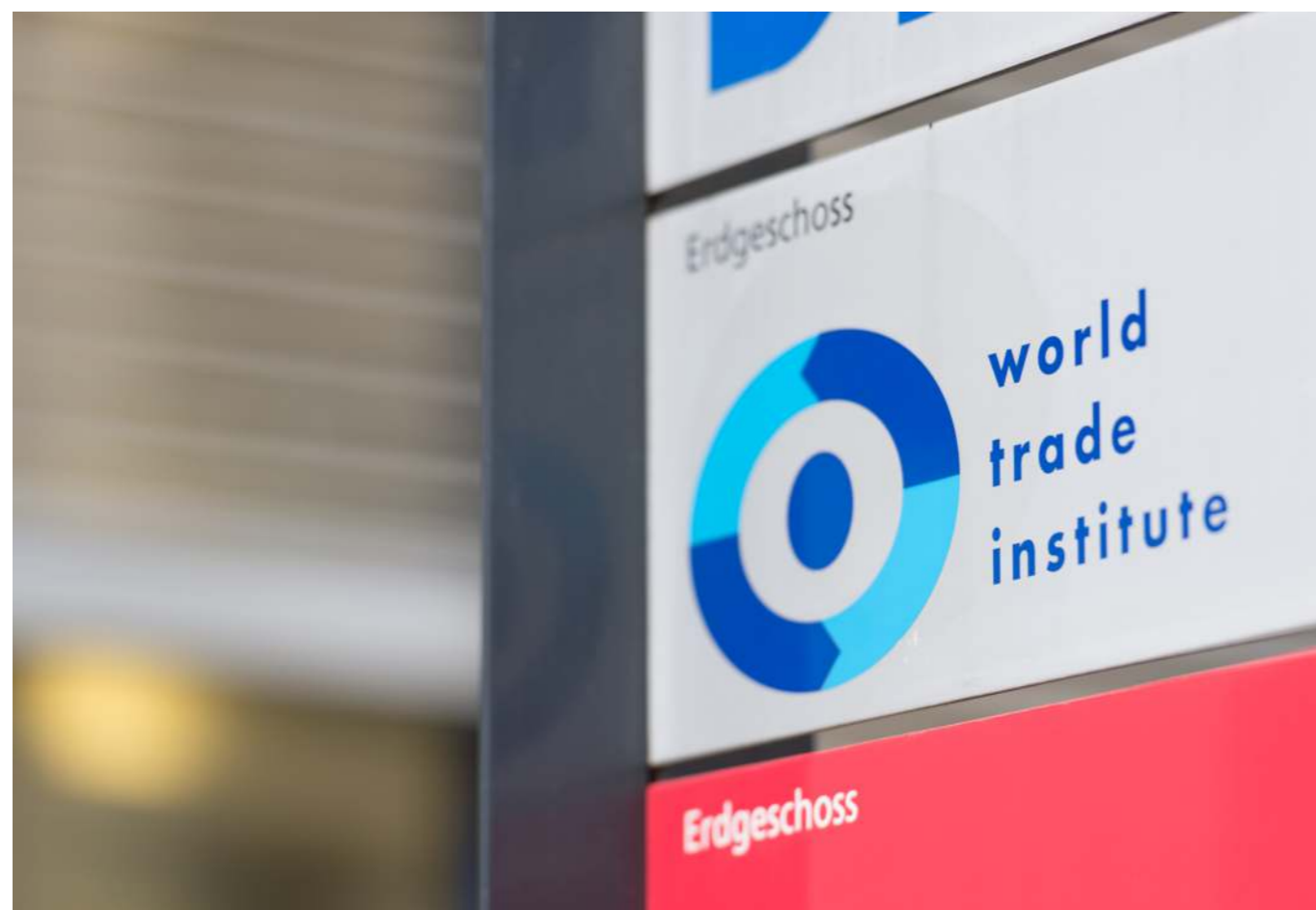


had been formed as part of the WTI's mentoring project. Both mentors and mentees have found their interactions very valuable.

In 2021 the newly established **WTI Alumni Association (WTIAA)** elected its first Executive Committee and held its first General Assembly Meeting. The WTIAA is a platform for cooperation, exchange, networking and events, supporting alumni, students and the WTI alike. The aim is to connect former MILE/TRAIL+ and PhD alumni. Current students and professors are welcome to join as observers. The first Executive Committee of the WTIAA is composed as follows: President: Mr Jeremy Streatfeild, MILE 1; Vice-President: Ms Wakako Oshima, MILE 7; Secretary: Mr Harsh Hiroo Gursahani, MILE 11; Treasurer: Ms Intan Maizurah Hamdan, MILE 1; Outreach Officer: Mr Diego Osorio, MILE 1. In 2021, the WTIAA organised a round of regional online meetings to connect with the global alumni body of the

WTI. The setting up of Regional and Thematic Committees is planned for 2022.

Finally, the WTI wishes to congratulate alumnus BVR Subrahmanyam (MILE 1) on being appointed by the Government of India as India's new Commerce Secretary in 2021. Congratulations are also due to Marianna Henud Cresci who received the 2021 Thomas Cottier Award for the Best Thesis for her Master's thesis "Can WTO Rules, Disciplines and Incentives Contribute to Fish Stocks Conservation?".



For more information about our Alumni, including recent interviews, please visit our website: www.wti.org/institute/alumni

Financial account for 2021

(in CHF, rounded)

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
External funds		Personnel	
Programme income	1,627,000	Salaries	2,618,000
Other income (services)	164,000	Social benefits	525,000
Total external funds	1,791,000	Total personnel	3,143,000
University funds		Other Expenditure	
Contributions to office rent ¹	0	Office rent ¹	0
Contributions to personnel expenditure	1,407,000	Office operating expenses	311,000
Contributions to operating expenses	209,000	Travel	2,000
Total university funds	1,616,000	Miscellaneous	+3,000
		Total other expenditure	310,000
		Accruals	-46,000
Total Income	3,407,000	Total Expenditure	3,407,000

The WTI is constituted as a centre of competence within the University of Bern, and the financial accounts are audited internally and externally. For accounting purposes, the University of Bern applies the accounting standard Swiss GAAP FER. A full overview, including the most recent financial positions, is available as part of the University's annual report.

¹ Paid directly by the university administration.

