

Trade Policy Making and the WTO

Semester: Spring Semester – FS 2024

Lecturer: Victor do Prado

Dates: April 29 and April 30, 2024

Room: Silva Casa Auditorium, World Trade Institute

Description

This course will look into the issue of global economic governance and the role of the WTO in the current international context. It will cover a brief background on the founding principles and functions of the WTO and check whether these are still valid and operational today. The course will then explore the issue of WTO Reform, based on the problems and proposals identified by Members. This includes issues of transparency, negotiations and dispute settlement. The course will also look into the evolution of WTO Ministerial Conferences.

Lecturers

Victor do Prado is a professor of Economic Diplomacy at the Paris School of International Affairs - SciencesPo and Senior Fellow at the Brazilian Center for International Relations. From 2012 to 2022, he was the Director of the Council and Trade Negotiations Committee Division at the WTO. He was a diplomat and member of the Brazilian delegation and negotiating team during the concluding phase of the Uruguay Round and early years of the WTO. Victor do Prado served as a panelist in three WTO dispute settlement cases. From 2005 to 2012, he was WTO's Deputy Chief of Staff.

Assessment

In-class exercises and discussion.

Learning Objectives

The goal of the course is to explain and discuss:

- Global economic governance and the WTO
- WTO functions in the current international context
- Is the WTO fit for purpose?

Sessions

Session 1: April 29, 2024

Topics: WTO and global governance, WTO concepts and functions, initial discussion on WTO Reform

Time: 09h00-12h00

Session 2: April 30, 2024

Topics: WTO Reform - transparency, negotiations, dispute settlement. Ministerial Conferences and the future of the Multilateral Trading System

Time: 09h00-12h00

Mandatory Readings:

WTO Reform

https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/mc12_e/briefing_notes_e/bfwtoreform_e.htm

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/1758-5899.12924>

https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2021/april/tradoc_159544.1329_EN_02.pdf

Dispute Settlement

<https://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/documents/Paper%20no.158webPDF.pdf>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/1758-5899.12929>

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/american-journal-of-international-law/article/who-guards-the-guardians-of-the-system-the-role-of-the-secretariat-in-wto-dispute-settlement/7A6096A2F679DB25227357438E81E2D5>

Recommended Readings

[http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/107574/1/LSE IDEAS Economic Diplomacy in the 21st Century August 2020.pdf](http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/107574/1/LSE_IDEAS_Economic_Diplomacy_in_the_21st_Century_August_2020.pdf)

<https://www.cebri.org/media/documentos/arquivos/Dossie260b69dbc0e4f6.pdf#page=61>