Trade Rules for the Pandemic and Its Aftermath

November 23 - 27, 2020
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The pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus will shape the economic policy landscape for the foreseeable future. Governments around the world have taken action on an unprecedented scale to stop the spread of the virus, ensure the availability of essential supplies, and help firms and their workers survive the shutdown of large sections of the economy. This year’s Institute on Trade Policy will cover the immediate tasks for trade policy presented by the emergency, the long-term trends that the pandemic has unleashed or accelerated, and the tools that trade officials have at their disposal to respond to and shape these developments.

The months following the outbreak of the novel coronavirus saw a proliferation of export restrictions on medical goods. Government restrictions on economic activity also had a large indirect impact on international trade: international travel slowed to a trickle as borders were closed and hundreds of millions of tourists, international students, and business travelers were forced to stay put. These restrictions have not only made some forms of trade impossible, but also increased the general cost of conducting trade in both goods and services. At the same time, governments have poured vast amounts of funds into the economy to keep businesses afloat. These developments present immediate tasks for trade officials, most prominently to monitor and—responsibly—roll back restrictions and financial emergency assistance that may have trade-distortive effects.

The pandemic also affects the existing agenda. Digital trade is rising in importance as ever more economic activity moves online—a trend that accentuates the need for new rules on e-commerce and the cross-border transfer of data. The global race to develop a vaccine for the coronavirus will increase scrutiny of intellectual property protections in trade agreements, as governments consider the need for compulsory licensing not only for their own markets, but also to export to countries without pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity. And the increased emphasis on the “resilience” of supply chains and demands to ensure domestic capacity to produce “essential goods” could portend greater government involvement in the economy. Renewed interest in resilience will put rules on subsidies and government procurement into the spotlight. Finally, the economic changes wrought by the pandemic will interact in myriad ways with the climate crisis.

The 2020 edition of the Institute will prepare participants to address these challenges. A first set of presentations will outline the evidence on the trade-implications of the pandemic as well as the pandemic's impact on long-run trends. A second set of presentations will examine how existing trade rules have fared in the response to the crisis and whether there is a need for reform. A third set of presentations will explore how trade officials can build an international trade regime that can accommodate and shape the long-run trends of digitization, increased state involvement in the economy, and climate change.
Monday, November 23

9:00  Introduction to the Institute

The presentation will provide an overview of the Institute and introduce the major questions for trade policy raised by the pandemic.

Nicolas Lamp, Director, Queen’s Institute on Trade Policy; Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Queen’s University

9:45  Overview of the Current Trade Landscape

This presentation will discuss the impact of the pandemic on global trade and on Canada’s trade performance.

Stephen Tapp, Deputy Chief Economist, Export Development Canada

10:30  Break

10:45  Anatomy of Trade Restrictions in the Wake of the Pandemic

The presentation will provide an overview of the trade restrictions, as well as trade liberalizing measures, that countries have implemented in response to the pandemic.

Simon Evenett, Professor, Swiss Institute for International Economics and Applied Economic Research, University of St. Gallen

11:30  Lunch Keynote: What Makes a Supply Chain Resilient?

The pandemic has propelled the concept of “resilience” to the forefront of discussions about globalization. Three options for making supply chains more resilient are typically considered: reshoring or nearshoring, diversification, and stockpiling. The keynote will address the question whether these options offer viable pathways towards more resilient supply and discuss alternative strategies that governments and companies can adopt.

Sébastien Miroudot, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate

12:15  Small Group Seminar

1:00  End of day
Tuesday, November 24

9:00  Trade Costs and Firm-Based Trade Theory

In addition to causing direct demand and supply shocks, the pandemic has also had an indirect impact on trade, by increasing the cost of engaging in international trade. The presentation will discuss the effects of the pandemic on trade costs and provide theoretical background for understanding how increased trade costs impact the ability of firms to participate in international trade.

Beverly Lapham, Professor, Economics Department, Queen’s University

9:45  Reconfiguring Supply Chains in an Era of US-China Conflict

The presentation will consider the reconfiguration of supply chains that is taking place in light of the escalating trade conflict between the United States and China. Companies are no longer exiting China only to avoid US tariffs. The broadening US sanctions against companies that use Chinese inputs will force a broader reassessment of supply chains and could lead to a decoupling of Chinese and US supply chains.

Ari Van Assche, Professor, HEC Montreal

10:30  Break

10:45  Managing and Monitoring Emergency Measures during the Pandemic

The presentation will discuss the opportunities for information exchange, consultations and learning provided by the institutional mechanisms of trade agreements, especially by the WTO’s councils and committees. It will focus in particular on how WTO monitoring kept track of the flurry of trade restrictions during the pandemic and will discuss the lessons that WTO Members can learn from the experience.

Robert Wolfe, Professor Emeritus, School of Policy Studies, Queen’s University

11:30  Lunch keynote: The View from Washington – US Trade Policy in a Post-Pandemic World

The keynote will discuss the outlook for US trade policy in the wake of the US presidential election, including the prospect for Canada-US economic relations, the likely direction of China-US trade relations, and the implications for WTO reform.

Jennifer Hillman, Senior Fellow for Trade and International Political Economy, Council on Foreign Relations

12:15  Small Group Seminar

1:00  End of day
Wednesday, November 25

9:00  Morning keynote: The Evolution of China’s Economic Policy and Trade Strategy

The debate about how to re-energize trade in the wake of the pandemic unfolds against the backdrop of deteriorating trade and political relations between the West and China. Apart from China’s sometimes aggressive tactics in bilateral trade relations, a broader question looms over China’s future role in international trade, namely, the question of whether China’s economic model is compatible with a liberal trade regime. Put more concretely, are the protections provided by WTO law sufficient to allow Canadian companies to engage with their Chinese competitors on a level playing field, or is the more aggressive ‘decoupling’ agenda advocated by the Trump administration warranted? In order to equip participants to answer these questions, the keynote will sketch the trajectory of China’s economic policy and trace the evolution of its trade strategy.

Simon Rabinovitch, The Economist

9:45  Rethinking Trade in Medicines and Medical Supplies

The presentation will first discuss the legality of the export controls and other measures adopted by countries to secure medical supplies in the initial months of the pandemic. It will then address the question of whether we need new rules to ensure a more equitable and predictable supply of medical products in the future, for example in the form of a plurilateral agreement among WTO Members.

Valerie Hughes, Senior Counsel, Bennett Jones, former Director of the WTO Legal Affairs Division and of the WTO Appellate Body Secretariat

10:30  Break

10:45  Do Trade Rules on Intellectual Property Represent an Obstacle to Global Access to a Coronavirus Vaccine?

The development of an effective vaccine against the coronavirus represents the best hope for ending the coronavirus pandemic. However, even if an effective vaccine is developed, making the vaccine accessible to a sufficiently large share of the global population to achieve herd immunity will not just present an unprecedented logistical challenge, but will also implicate the intellectual property protections enshrined in trade agreements. Governments may need to consider issuing compulsory licenses for the vaccine. The presentation will offer an overview of the international trade rules on intellectual property that provide the framework under which a coronavirus vaccine will have to be produced and disseminated.

Frederick Abbott, Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Professor of International law, College of Law, Florida State University

11:30  Agriculture: The State of Trade and Prospects for Reform

Agricultural supply chains became a focus of attention during the coronavirus pandemic, but there are broader challenges for Canadian agricultural trade. Canadian agricultural producers have to adjust to the strictures of the CUSMA and the strained trade relations with China. The presentation will survey these challenges and suggest avenues for progress in agricultural trade reform.

Joseph Glauber, Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC

12:15  Small Group Seminar

1:00  End of day
Thursday, November 26

9:00  The Rise of Digital Trade: The Role of E-Commerce and Data in the Pandemic and Beyond

The pandemic has further increased the importance of digital technologies in the global economy. This has added urgency to negotiations on e-commerce in the WTO and highlighted the importance of rules regarding the cross-border transfer of data. Among economic interests and privacy concerns, national security considerations are playing an ever more prominent role in the regulation of the digital economy.

Mira Burri, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Lucerne

9:45  Do We Need New Rules on Subsidies in an Age of Industrial Policy?

The WTO rules on subsidies have been a central point of contention in the US-China trade war, prompting proposals by the “trilateral” group (United States, European Union, and Japan) to reform the rules to discipline China’s model of state capitalism more effectively. The coronavirus pandemic has added a new twist to these discussions, as Western governments have expended trillions to keep companies afloat. More long-term, the pandemic has sparked renewed interest in a more active industrial policy in the West, be it to shore up manufacturing employment, reshore supply chains to increase their resilience, or accelerate the transition to a more sustainable economy. The presentation will discuss whether the rules designed in the 1980s can accommodate these diverse interests and ambitions for subsidies regulation.

Julia Nielson, Deputy Director, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD

10:30  Break

10:45  Government Procurement: Trade vs. Socio-Economic Policies

Along with subsidies, government procurement is one of many tools that governments have at their disposal to shape markets and support particular industries and producers, as well as advance socio-economic objectives. For example, in the United States, there appears to be an increasing bipartisan consensus to use “Buy America” provisions in this vein. The presentation will provide an overview of the rules applicable to government procurement and how these can be at odds with domestic policies that governments wish to advance. The presentation will also discuss how trade officials can help Canadian companies maintain access to the most important procurement markets in the world economy.

Dany Carriere, former Director of Trade Negotiations, Global Affairs Canada

11:30  Lunch Keynote: Addressing Climate Change in Trade Agreements

Climate change is the greatest policy challenge of our time and will likely play an ever more important role in the development of trade policy. Discussions about a Green New Deal in the United States and a Green Deal in the European Union as well as China’s massive investments in renewable energy technologies and electric mobility underscore the increasing centrality of climate change to economic policymaking in Canada’s main trading partners. How do policies that are designed to mitigate climate change interact with international trade obligations? How can trade agreements best contribute to climate change mitigation – by liberalizing trade in green goods, facilitating the diffusion of green technology, or disciplining fossil fuel subsidies?

Carolyn Fischer, Canada 150 Research Chair in Climate Economics, Innovation and Policy, University of Ottawa

12:15  Small Group Seminar

1:00  End of day
Friday, November 27

9:00 The Canadian Free Trade Agreement and Interprovincial Trade

Canadian companies will become more competitive internationally if they are able to compete more freely within Canada. Moreover, internal trade liberalization could provide a welcome boost to the Canadian economy as it recovers from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and many obstacles to international trade remain in place. The presentation will cover the most important obstacles to internal trade and discuss options for their removal, including by drawing lessons from international trade liberalization.

Trevor Tombe, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Calgary

9:45 The Need for Post-Pandemic Trade Facilitation: Improving T and B Branch Cooperation

In order to negotiate agreements that facilitate trade, negotiators need to know which challenges businesses confront “on the ground”. Canada’s trade commissioners have first-hand knowledge of these challenges. Conversely, trade commissioners need to be familiar with the opportunities offered by trade agreements so that they can help their clients take advantage of those opportunities. The panel will discuss best practices for communication and cooperation between the T and B branches of the Global Affairs Canada.

Jay Allen, Executive Director, Trade Policy and Negotiations – Asia, Global Affairs Canada
Chris Moran, Director General, Trade & Portfolio Strategy and Coordination, Global Affairs Canada

10:30 Break

10:45 Developing a Negotiating Strategy: How Do We Get Any of This Done?

The presentation will focus on how Canada should articulate its strategy, including defensive vs offensive interests, and linkages with other issues, in the post-Pandemic trade environment. It will further discuss how Canada can leverage its existing agreements to achieve its trade policy objectives. The presentation will give particular attention to negotiations with developing countries and regional groupings that include both developed and developing countries, such as ASEAN.

Don Stephenson, former Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade Policy & Negotiations

11:30 Small Group Seminar

12:15 Discussion with Senior Officials

The concluding session will provide an opportunity for an exchange of views with senior officials on the trade policy response to the pandemic. The participants will present the views of their seminar groups on the key challenges that the pandemic poses for trade policy.

Kendal Hembroff, Director General, Trade Negotiations, Global Affairs Canada
Arun Alexander, Director General, North America Trade Policy Bureau

1:00 Institute ends
Jay Allen is Executive Director for the Trade Policy and Negotiations – Asia Division at Global Affairs Canada. He is responsible for managing the negotiation and implementation of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), Canada’s trade policy relationship with China, as well as ongoing free trade negotiations with India and exploratory discussions with ASEAN. Jay has worked on Canada’s trade negotiations since 2008, including as Canada’s lead financial services negotiator from 2011 to 2012, and most recently as Director for the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Division at Global Affairs Canada. Prior to international trade, Jay’s work focused on legal policy development in corporate and insolvency law at Industry Canada from 1998 to 2006, and then with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. A lawyer by training, Jay holds a Doctor of Law (JD) and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Frederick Abbott, the Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Professor of International Law, is highly regarded for his scholarship and professional activities in international intellectual property rights and global economic issues. He has served as an expert consultant for numerous international and regional organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations, mainly in the fields of intellectual property, public health, trade, competition and sustainable development. He is co-chair of the Committee on Global Health Law of the International Law Association, having served as rapporteur for the Committee on International Trade Law from the inception of its work in 1993 to its conclusion in 2014. He recently served as a member of the Expert Advisory Group to the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines, appointed in late 2015. Professor Abbott regularly serves as panelist for the World Intellectual Property Organization Arbitration and Mediation Center. He is on the editorial board of the Journal of International Economic Law (Oxford) and on the editorial board of the WIPO-WTO Colloquium Papers Series, Geneva. He has served as counsel to governments in WTO dispute settlement proceedings, and in national court proceedings. He is on the panel of arbitrators under the dispute settlement mechanism of the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement. He is former chair of the American Society of Law Intellectual Property Interest Group and the International Law Section of the American Association of Law Schools, and former director of the American Society of International Law Research Project on Human Rights and International Trade. He served on the panel of experts of UNCTAD’s Program on the Settlement of Disputes in International Trade, Investment and Intellectual Property, and as consultant for the UNCTAD/ICTSD Project on Intellectual Property and Sustainable Development. He served as chair of the Intellectual Property Advisory Committee of the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics.

Arun Alexander, Director General, North America Trade Policy Bureau

Mira Burri is a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Law of the University of Lucerne, Switzerland. She teaches international intellectual property, media, internet and trade law. Mira’s current research interests are in the areas of digital trade, culture, copyright, data protection and internet governance. Mira is the principle investigator of the project ‘The Governance of Big Data in Trade Agreements’, financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation. She consults the European Parliament, UNESCO, WEF and others on issues of digital innovation and cultural diversity.

Dany Carriere began her career in procurement in what was then the Department of Public Works and Government Services Canada. She gained instrumental experience in the field of procurement that would continue to serve her until the end of her career. In 2002, Dany began working in the policy arena and had the opportunity to contribute to the Treasury Board’s procurement modernization policy and the federal policy on green procurement. In 2007, Dany joined Global Affairs Canada and where she was the lead government procurement negotiator for the WTO-GPA, the CETA and other bilateral trade agreements. Of note, in 2009, Dany was the lead negotiator for the Canada-U.S. Procurement Agreement. This topic specific trade agreement was in response to new Buy America requirements introduced in January 2009 that negatively impacted Canadian exports into the U.S. It also represented the first time that provinces and territories agreed to undertake procurement trade obligations. From 2012 until its conclusion in 2015, Dany was the Deputy Chief Negotiator for the TPP (now known as CPTPP). Finally, from 2017 until her retirement, Dany was the Chief Policy Coordinator for the NAFTA renegotiations.

Simon J. Evenett is Professor of International Trade and Economic Development at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. He also founded the Global Trade Alert, the independent commercial policy monitoring initiative. He has written a little on trade policy and the multilateral trading system. @simonevenett

Elaine Feldman is a former senior Canadian government official with over 30 years of experience. When she retired from the Canadian public service in 2013, Elaine was President of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. Afterwards, she joined GSPIA’s Centre on Public Management and Policy (Odell House) as Executive in Residence. During her public service career, Elaine held several senior positions at what is now Global Affairs Canada, including as Assistant Deputy Minister for North America. She has been chief negotiator for several trade disputes and agreements. Her career also includes three foreign service postings, including two at the Canadian mission to the World Trade Organization in Geneva. Elaine is a graduate of France’s prestigious Ecole nationale d’administration (ENA). She holds a LL.B and B.C.L. from McGill University and a B.A. from Bryn Mawr College.

Carolyn Fischer is the Canada 150 Research Chairholder in Climate Economics, Innovation and Policy at the University of Ottawa and is jointly appointed as professor of environmental economics in the Department of Spatial Economics at the Vrije Universiteit – Amsterdam. Dr. Fischer is also a senior fellow with Resources for the Future (RFF) and with the European Institute of Environmental Economics (EIEE), a Tinbergen Institute affiliate, a fellow of the CESifo Research Network, and a member of Environment Canada’s Economics and Environmental Policy Research Network. She is currently a Council Member for the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) and has previously served on the board of directors of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE). Dr. Fischer is an expert on environmental policy instrument design, including emissions pricing, cap-and-trade, performance standards, renewable energy support mechanisms, and third-party labelling schemes. Her research applies to a variety of environmental and resource management issues, including climate and renewable energy policies, carbon leakage, technological innovation, fuel economy standards, eco-certification, and wildlife conservation. She serves on expert advisory boards for the Canadian Institute for Climate Choices, the Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC–Berlin), the Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC), Economics for Energy, and Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). She is co-editor of Environmental and Resource Economics and serves on the editorial board of the Review of Environmental Economics and Policy and the International Review of Environmental and Resource Economics. She earned her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor in 1997.
Jonathan Fried’s distinguished diplomatic career for Canada has spanned law, economics and trade, including as G20 Sherpa; Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the WTO; Ambassador to Japan; Executive Director for Canada, Ireland and the Caribbean at the IMF; Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister; Senior Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of Finance and Canada’s G7 and G20 Finance Deputy. He was formerly Canada’s Chief Negotiator on China’s WTO accession; chief counsel for NAFTA; and Counsellor for Congressional and Legal Affairs at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC.

Mr. Fried is now an independent consultant. He is a Senior Associate (non-resident) to the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC and is one of two Lead Advisors to the World Economic Forum’s International Trade and Investment Platform. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Health Standards Organization (formerly Accreditation Canada), and the Advisory Boards of the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, the World Trade Symposium, and the Central and East European Law Institute. Mr. Fried received his B.A. and LL.B. from the University of Toronto, and LL.M. from Columbia University.

Joseph Glauber is a Senior Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute and a Visiting Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. Prior to joining IFPRI, Glauber spent over 30 years at the U.S. Department of Agriculture including as Chief Economist from 2008 to 2014. As Chief Economist, he was responsible for the Department’s agricultural forecasts and projections, oversaw climate, energy and regulatory issues, and served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

From 2007-2009, Glauber was the Special Doha Agricultural Envoy at the office of the U.S. Trade Representative where he served as chief agricultural negotiator in the Doha talks. He served as economic adviser at the so-called Blair House agreements leading to the completion of the Uruguay Round negotiations and was senior economist for agriculture at the President’s Council of Economic Advisers. He is the author of numerous studies on crop insurance, agricultural policy, and agricultural trade issues.

Dr. Glauber received his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin in 1984 and holds an AB in anthropology from the University of Chicago. In 2012, he was elected Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association.

Kendal Hembroff was appointed Director General, Trade Policy and Negotiations at Global Affairs Canada in August 2018 and has responsibility for overseeing the negotiation of Canada’s bilateral/regional trade agreements and related initiatives as well as multilateral trade policy engagement at the WTO, OECD, G20 and APEC. In this capacity, Ms. Hembroff currently serves as Canada’s Chief Negotiator for ongoing FTA negotiations with the Pacific Alliance and India, as well as Canada’s senior official for FTA exploratory discussions with ASEAN.

Before assuming her current role, Ms. Hembroff has held a number of other positions in the Trade Policy and Negotiations Branch at Global Affairs Canada. She served as Deputy Chief Negotiator for CPTPP and Ukraine, and as Chief Negotiator for modernization of Canada’s existing free trade agreements with Chile and Costa Rica. Ms. Hembroff also served as the deputy senior official responsible for FTA exploratory discussions with China and was Canada’s Lead Negotiator for the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

Ms. Hembroff previously served abroad as Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner at the Consulate General in Hong Kong from 2011 to 2014 and was responsible for providing support to Canadian companies in the Greater China region.

She has her Bachelor of Arts Honours in Political Studies from the University of Manitoba; and Master of Arts in International Affairs from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University.

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Jennifer A. Hillman is currently a professor of practice at the Georgetown Law Center, teaching the lead courses in international business and international trade, while serving as a fellow of Georgetown’s Institute of International Economic Law (IIEL). She recently published Legal Aspects of Brexit: Implications of the United Kingdom’s Decision to Withdraw from the European Union (IIEL 2017), drawn from a seminar she co-taught in the fall of 2016. She has also written extensively about international trade law and the WTO, including a 2017 IIEL Policy Brief on the WTO consistency of the Ryan-Brady “A Better Way” tax proposal, co-authoring the leading casebook on trade, International Trade Law, 3rd ed., Wolters Kluwer (2016), papers on recent WTO cases on sanitary and phytosanitary measures (World Trade Review) and “Changing Climate for Carbon Taxes” (GMFUS.org).

Hillman has had a distinguished career in public service, both nationally and internationally. She recently completed her term as one of seven members from around the world serving on the World Trade Organization’s (WTO) Appellate Body. Prior to that, she served for nine years as a commissioner at the United States International Trade Commission (USITC), rendering decisions in more than six hundred investigations regarding injury to U.S. industries caused by imports that were dumped or subsidized, along with making numerous decisions in cases involving alleged patent or trademark infringement. Before her appointment to the USITC, Hillman served as general counsel at the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), where she had previously been an ambassador and chief textiles negotiator. She also served as legislative director and counsel to U.S. Senator Terry Sanford of North Carolina. Hillman formerly served as a partner in the law firm of Cassidy Levy Kent, a senior transatlantic fellow for the German Marshall Fund of the United States, as president of the Trade Policy Forum and on the selection panel for the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation.

She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on the board of visitors at the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. She is a graduate of the Harvard Law School and Duke University.

Valerie Hughes has served as counsel for the Government of Canada before WTO panels and the organization’s Appellate Body, as an adjudicator in WTO disputes, and as the only person to have served as both Director of the WTO’s Legal Affairs Division (2010-16) and Director of its Appellate Body Secretariat (2001-05).

Valerie has been involved in more than 70 WTO disputes. These include challenges in the Canadian auto industry, softwood lumber and seafood exports. She brings a unique perspective to WTO dispute settlement—having served as counsel, judge, or advisor to WTO judges.

Valerie is one of Canada’s leading lawyers in international treaty law. She argued Canada’s first investor-state dispute under the NAFTA. She represented Canada before the International Court of Justice in a dispute with the United States over the fishing grounds off Canada’s east coast, and before an international tribunal that determined the international maritime boundary off Newfoundland and the French islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon.

Nicolas Lamp joined the Faculty of Law at Queen’s University as an Assistant Professor in 2014. In 2020, he was cross-appointed to the Queen’s School of Policy Studies. He also serves as the Academic Director of the International Law Programs, an eight-week summer course that Queen’s Law offers at the Bader International Study Centre at Herstmonceux castle in England during the summer term. Since 2019, he has also been the Director of the Annual Queen’s Institute on Trade Policy, a professional training course for Canadian trade officials that is hosted by the Queen’s School of Policy Studies.

Prior to joining Queen’s, Assistant Professor Lamp worked as a Dispute Settlement Lawyer at the Appellate Body Secretariat of the World Trade Organization, where he advised the Members of the Appellate Body on legal issues arising in appellate proceedings under the WTO’s dispute settlement mechanism. His teaching subjects include Contracts, International Trade Law, the International Trade Law Practicum, and Public International Law. Assistant Professor Lamp received his PhD in Law from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 2013. His doctoral thesis on “Lawmaking in the Multilateral Trading System” investigates the origins and implications of the discourses, practices and techniques that shape international lawmaking in the trade context. His current research focuses on competing narratives about the winners and losers from economic globalization. His co-authored book (with Anthea Roberts) on “Winners and Losers: Narratives about Economic Globalization” is forthcoming with Harvard University Press in October 2021.
Beverly Lapham has been a professor in the Department of Economics at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario since 1989. Her research fields include international trade, international finance, industrial organization, and macroeconomics. She is particularly interested in issues on exchange rate passthrough, the impact of international price differences, cross-border shopping, retail and service industry adjustments, and the productivity effects of international trade. She has been a co-editor of the Canadian Journal of Economics and an associate editor of the Journal of International Economics. She has been a member of the Institute for Research on Public Policy Trade Advisory Committee and the Statistics Canada International Trade Advisory Committee.

Sébastien Miroudot is senior trade policy analyst in the Trade in Services Division of the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate. He has spent 15 years working on trade and investment issues, including the creation of trade statistics in value-added terms (TiVA), the construction of a services trade restrictiveness index (STRI) and the analysis of the policy implications of global value chains. Before joining the OECD, he was researcher at SciencesPo in Groupe d’Economie Mondiale and taught international economics. In 2016-2017, he was visiting professor at the Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS) of Seoul National University. He holds a PhD in international economics from SciencesPo Paris. @smiroudot @OECDtrade

Chris Moran is the Director General of the Trade Portfolio Strategy and Coordination Bureau in the International Business Development Branch of Global Affairs Canada. She is responsible for portfolio governance (Export Development Canada and the Canadian Commercial Corporation), corporate social responsibility policy and operations, free trade agreement promotion, continuous improvement within the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service and horizontal policy issues.

Chris has extensive experience in trade policy development (SPS, TBT) and strategic agricultural policy and has served as a Canadian negotiator in multilateral and bilateral negotiations. She has led federal negotiations with provinces and territories addressing cost overruns in agricultural programming and on performance measurement frameworks for the agricultural policy framework. She served as a trade commissioner in Chicago, Illinois, and was the executive director of the Grain Growers of Canada.

Andrew (Sandy) Moroz worked in the international trade policy branch of Global Affairs Canada on a wide range of goods trade issues from 1987 to 2013, when he retired. His positions included Director of the Import Control Division, Director of the Trade Remedies Division, and Director of the Goods Market Access Division. He also served as Counsellor in Canada’s Mission to the World Trade Organization in Geneva. His negotiating positions included lead rules of origin negotiator in the NAFTA and Canada-Israel FTA negotiations, and co-lead market access negotiator in the Canada-Chile FTA, Canada-India FTA, Canada-India FTA, Canada-India FTA, CET and TPP negotiations. Prior to joining the Federal Government, Sandy worked at the Economic Council of Canada and in the International Economics Program at the Institute for Research on Public Policy. He has a Honours BA in Economics from the University of Waterloo, and a Masters in Economics from Carleton University.

Julia Nielson is Deputy Director, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD. Ms Nielson helps oversee work to develop and communicate evidence-based advice to governments with the aim of helping them improve the domestic and international performance of their policies in the areas of trade, food, agriculture and fisheries.

Ms. Nielson has over 20 years’ experience in multilateral trade and development, strategy and management. She was previously Head of the Emerging Policy Issues Division in TAD, with responsibility for issues including digital trade, and the level playing field. Prior to that, she worked for the World Bank Group (WBG), including in the office of the then-President of the WBG, Bob Zoellick.

Ms. Nielson began her international career in the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, following which she joined the OECD Trade Directorate, working on trade in services. Ms Nielson left the OECD in 2005 to join the Trade Department of the WBG. Ms Nielson holds a Bachelor of Arts Hons (1st class) and a Masters in Foreign Affairs and Trade from the Australian National University. @OECDtrade
John O'Neill (B.Comm 1978, St. Mary's University; MBA 1987, Dalhousie University) has had an extensive private sector and public service career including management positions in the construction industry in Nova Scotia and public service positions with Revenue Canada - Customs and Excise, the Canadian International Trade Tribunal, the Department of Finance and Global Affairs Canada. While with Finance Canada, John O'Neill was Canada’s lead negotiator for trade remedy issues including lead negotiator for Canada in the WTO Negotiating Group on Rules. Upon joining the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, John O'Neill was Director of Softwood Lumber Controls, then Director of the Investment Trade Policy Division, responsible for the negotiation of Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements and investment chapters in Free Trade Agreements, as well as for the policy management of Canada’s interests in investor to State dispute settlement claims. In 2012, he became Director General for North American Trade Policy, responsible for trade remedy issues, softwood lumber, investment trade policy and North American trade policy issues. In 2014 when he was posted to Canada’s Permanent Mission in Geneva as Canada’s Deputy Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization, a position John held until his retirement from the Public Service in 2019.

Simon Rabinovitch is Asia Economics Editor of The Economist. He previously served as a correspondent with the Financial Times and Reuters in Beijing, Shanghai and London, reporting on finance and economics. The joint winner of a Society of Publishers in Asia award for coverage of China, Simon’s commentary has appeared on BBC, CBC and NPR, among others. He also had a brief stint as a table-tennis reporter during the Beijing Olympics in 2008. Outside of journalism, Simon was the founding National Secretary for the Rhodes Scholarships for China, a scholarship for students to attend the University of Oxford. He has a BA from McGill University and an MPhil from the University of Oxford.

Don Stephenson began his Public Service career in 1979, working in cultural policy for ten years at the Department of Communications. He moved into economic policy, at Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Industry Canada and Western Economic Diversification, before returning to cultural policy, as Director General, Cultural Industries, Heritage Canada, where he led the negotiations with the US on the WTO split-run magazine dispute. He was appointed Director General, Trade Policy at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and then served for two years as Assistant Secretary to Cabinet, Economic and Regional Development Policy, Privy Council Office. In 2004, he was appointed Ambassador to the World Trade Organization, serving as Chair of the goods negotiations in the Doha Round until 2008. Don returned to become Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade Policy and Negotiations, until his retirement in late 2011 and continued to serve as Chief Negotiator for the Canada-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement until 2018. Don lectures frequently on trade policy, trade negotiations and public policy development, and serves as trade and investment advisor to the Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development, a trade-related technical assistance program delivered under contract for Global Affairs Canada. He is married to Jocelyne Béland, has two children and (two) grandchildren.

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