



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
“THE ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN THE
CONCLUSION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC LAW ISSUES”**

9 DECEMBER 2016

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, BRUSSELS

SPONSORSHIP:

Interest Group on International Economic Law of the European Society of International Law

WITH THE COLLABORATION OF

the European Parliament, represented by Policy Departments of the European Parliament, in cooperation with Scientific Committee.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

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Since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the European Parliament acquired and promoted with determination a prominent position in the conclusion of international agreements and in the definition of the international action of the European Union. With particular reference to international economic law, the European Parliament started claiming a transparent participatory policy by the European Commission, achieving considerable results.

The purpose of the Conference proposed by the ESIL Interest Group on International Economic Law (IEL) is to analyze the most important international economic agreements and policies of the EU in order to highlight the contribution of the European Parliament to the definition of the content of the new generation of Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs), and of the EU trade and investment policy - like, for instance, the new EU external investment policy. At the same time, the conference will deal with a comparison between the practice of the

European Parliament regarding IEL instruments, and that of national assemblies of the EU Member States, to assess whether and how the new approach of the European Parliament has influenced EU Member States' domestic parliamentary practices, and whether and how the parliamentary assemblies interact in the definition of the content of the EU international agreements. Last but not least, one of the aims of the proposed Conference will be to focus on the parliamentary practice of the main trading partners of the EU, e.g. India, Russia, USA, Latin American Countries, and also on treaty conclusion practice of China.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Scientific Committee of the International Conference "The Role of the European Parliament in the Conclusion and Implementation of International Agreements on International Economic Law Issues" launches a call for papers. The papers should be written in English, unpublished and in an advanced stage of completion.

The papers shall address one of the following themes:

Section I - The role of the European Parliament in decisions falling into common commercial policy after the Treaty of Lisbon.

During the last decade, the EU has extensively used its competencies to conclude numerous international economic agreements with its trading partners from all over the world. The Treaty of Lisbon has increased the competencies of the EU in the field of common commercial policy, for instance by including foreign direct investment into Art. 207 TFEU. This has enabled the EU to conclude very ambitious international agreements with trade and investment chapters.

The authors are invited to submit proposals discussing the role of the European Parliament in the process of concluding international economic agreements by the EU at different stages of negotiation process. This section covers the analysis of negotiation history and the state-of-play in respect of EU FTAs, Association Agreements with Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) Chapters, CETA and TTIP, planned Investment agreement between the EU and China, Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA).

Section II – Preferential trade agreements as mixed agreements: the role of the EU Member States' national parliaments and (possibly) parliaments of territorial units

The practical importance of this issue can be illustrated by the example of the European Commission's request for the CJEU's opinion on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement *EU-Singapore*. Indeed, the classification of a PTA as "mixed" will lead to the necessity of the approval of the agreement not only by the European Parliament but also by every single national parliament of each EU Member State, and possibly by parliaments of territorial units (like Landtag in Germany).

The proposals for this section shall address the issue of mixity of EU international economic agreements, the role of national parliaments in the process of negotiations and possible legal consequences of decisions passed by national parliaments of the EU member states for EU international economic agreements under consideration. The papers can also discuss the issue of provisional application of international economic agreements of the EU (under Art. 218(5) TFEU) and the position of national parliaments of EU Member States on this issue.

Section III - Transparency implications: the roles of the European Parliament and of national Parliaments.

The new EU international transparency policy has provoked the promotion of transparency within negotiations of international economic law agreements. Proposals for this section shall concentrate on transparency issues, new developments in this field and the role of both the European Parliament and national parliaments of the EU Member States in increasing transparency in international trade and investment negotiations, but also when implementing IEL agreements already in force.

Section IV - Comparative approach: the role of national parliaments in the conclusion of international economic agreements in the third countries which are major trading partners of the EU

EU trading partners have different traditions of parliamentary participation in concluding international economic agreements. The aim of this section is to discuss parliamentary practices of, e.g., India, Russia, USA, Latin American Countries etc., and address the peculiarities of the Chinese approach. Of a particular interest will be papers containing comparative analysis of these issues. The perspective of transparency when implementing IEL agreements should also be considered.

Paper Submission Procedure

Senior and junior scholars (including PhD students) are invited to participate to the call for papers of the International Conference "The Role of the European Parliament in the Conclusion and Implementation of International Agreements on International Economic Law Issues". Papers will be selected on the basis of the submitted abstracts. Only one abstract per author will be considered.

Abstracts must not exceed 800 words, and have to be submitted to the following mail addresses: elisa.baroncini@unibo.it ; mfedorova@law.uni-kiel.de ; pstoll@gwdg.de.

In addition to the abstract, each submission should contain a separate file with information on:

- The section of the call for papers for which the abstract is submitted
- The author's name and affiliation
- A short (one page) author's CV, including a list of relevant publications
- The author's contact details, including email address and phone number

Timeline

- The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 7 November 2016
- Successful applicants will be informed by 10 November 2016
- The deadline for the submission of papers for the International Conference is 2 December 2016
- The deadline for the submission of final papers for publication is 28 February 2016

We are very pleased to announce that we would like to publish a book collecting papers from the Conference, subject to selection by the Scientific Committee. Further information about the publication process will be conveyed to selected proposal authors in due course.