



INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL TRADELAB CONFERENCE 2024

CENTRE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW

in collaboration with

TRADELAB NETWORK

under the aegis of

WTO CHAIRS PROGRAMME

13 - 14 DECEMBER 2024

NEW DELHI

TAMARIND HALL, INDIA HABITAT CENTRE, NEW DELHI



Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL)

The Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) is a prestigious institution established in 2016 under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. It serves as a hub for research, policy analysis, and capacity-building activities in international trade and investment law. CTIL conducts research, provides analytical input to the Government of India for trade negotiations, and contributes to the development of India's trade and investment policies. It also collaborates with international organisations and academic institutions to promote a deeper understanding of trade and investment laws.

TradeLab

TradeLab, a Geneva-based initiative, unites students, academics, and legal practitioners to empower stakeholders including SMEs with research benefits on issues relating to international trade and investment law through pro-bono clinics.

TradeLab through its various partner clinics focuses on enhancing students' understanding of legal knowledge of international economic law, and their ability to apply the knowledge to practical problems. Through experimental learning the students cultivate the skills to be a thorough based professional.



WTO OMC



WTO CHAIRS
PROGRAMME

World Trade Organization (WTO) Chairs Programme (WCP)

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Chairs Programme (WCP) is an initiative by WTO to improve understanding of international trade, especially in developing countries. It supports the research, education, and outreach activities by WCP Chairs (usually either universities and research institutions). WCP helps build expertise in these institutions and connect academicians, policymakers, and practitioners for better trade policymaking. By creating a global network, WCP fosters knowledge sharing and strengthens the role of academia in international trade.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Background and Purpose

The Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) operates the TradeLab-India initiative of legal clinics and practice using a hub-and-spoke model, with CTIL acting as the anchor connecting universities and beneficiaries. TradeLab is a research-oriented initiative which is designed to empower stakeholders in international trade and investment law. TradeLab legal clinics provide beneficiaries with expert legal services, while the students benefit from practical experience, academic credits, and networking opportunities. One of the primary objectives of CTIL is to create lasting capacity in international trade and investment law amongst the stakeholders (including domestic industry, policymakers etc.) as well as India's leading National Law Universities. Through TradeLab, CTIL plays a pivotal role by facilitating collaboration between students, academicians, and legal practitioners with research organizations, SMEs, and civil society.

A tangible example of the initiative's impact is the partnership with the Indian Steel Association (ISA). Through the TradeLab India Law Clinic program, CTIL prepared a comprehensive report analyzing India's steel trade under Free Trade Agreements with ASEAN, Japan, and Korea. This report provided practical insights and recommendations to address regulatory and administrative challenges contributing to India's growing steel trade deficit.

By understanding the issues and potential solutions, ISA as a TradeLab beneficiary can make informed strategic decisions and advocate for policy reforms and FTA negotiations to improve market access for Indian steel producers. These initiatives ultimately aim to enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of India's steel industry in global markets.

Every year, CTIL organizes an annual conference to collaborate with the TradeLab network within India and abroad. So far, CTIL has produced around 15 projects and at present, 6 top-tier National Law Universities are running CTIL's TradeLab clinics. In this regard, CTIL is organizing a Two-day International Annual TradeLab Conference on 13th and 14th December 2024 at Tamarind Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. As stated above, the Conference will be instrumental in fostering collaboration, knowledge sharing, and capacity building in the field of international trade and investment law.

On Day 1, the Conference will begin with a welcome address by Prof. James J. Nedumpara, Head, CTIL and the keynote address by Prof. Katrin Kulhman, Professor, Graduate Programs; Faculty Director, Center on Inclusive Trade and Development, Georgetown University Law Centre. It will be followed by a closed-door Round Table of TradeLab Supervisors. Subsequently, there will be two sessions on Teaching Pedagogy and a session on leveraging artificial Intelligence for Teaching Pedagogy. On Day 2, the conference will witness three panel discussions and three student presentations of TradeLab projects conducted during the past year, followed by the closing session.

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Values of Multilateralism in an Increasingly Fragmented World

Although International Economic Law (IEL) has acquired considerable salience over the past decades, the emerging challenges such as friction between multilateralism and regionalism, weaponization of trade, unilateral measures and promotion of sustainable investment require a reformed approach for developing the strategies and policies to balance the domestic interests with inclusive economic growth. Such a nuanced approach will require probing the interaction of diverse disciplines under domestic law with established rules and principles under international economic law.

Thus, International economic law cannot remain limited to the traditional curriculum taught in law schools. Multilateralism today faces pushback due to the protectionist tendency of states amidst geopolitical uncertainty that has created a strain on the multilateral trading system. In addition, many challenges under international economic law including the functioning of the crown jewel of the World Trade Organization (WTO) i.e. the Dispute Settlement Body, internalising non-trade issues at the WTO and other forums and recalibrating bilateral investment treaties require new approaches to tackle these emerging issues. At the same time, it is important to understand the values of multilateralism in light of the experiences of a fragmented system that is being increasingly witnessed under the IEL legal system.

Evolution of Legal Pedagogy

Legal pedagogy has traditionally relied on methods like lecture-based teaching along with reliance on case studies and Socratic questioning. These methods have traditionally helped hone students' analytical skills by requiring them to dissect judicial opinions, identify legal principles, and apply them to hypothetical scenarios. While useful, especially for developing critical thinking, there is a need for developing practical skills through experiential learning i.e. "learning by doing" which includes developing proficiency in the negotiation of bilateral and multilateral texts and understanding the implications of the international instruments on regulatory and administrative bodies that operate outside of court. Most of these administrative bodies rely on quantitative and qualitative methods for making policy decisions that need to conform with obligations under international economic law. Thus, the practice-based "learning by doing" approach helps students acquire problem-solving skills and knowledge essential to deliver advisory opinions and policy recommendations to government departments and administrative bodies on legal issues dealing with international trade and investment law.

Furthermore, an interdisciplinary approach to legal education in international economic law can be helpful in developing a practical understanding of emerging issues under international trade and investment law. This approach is particularly relevant as international economic law increasingly intersects with contemporary public international law issues beyond trade and investment liberalization, including environmental concerns, labour, climate change, gender, digital commerce, and emerging challenges. The rise of unilateral measures further highlights the need for an interdisciplinary perspective. Considering this, many traditional methods are being supplemented by new pedagogical approaches aimed at fostering more practical, technologically proficient and interdisciplinary legal education. These methodologies include:

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Clinical Legal Education: Another teaching method that has proved useful in teaching IEL is clinical legal education (CLE) which has emerged as a vital tool due to its emphasis on ‘learning by doing’. CLE is defined by Richard Grimes, Director of Clinical Programmes at the University of York as “a learning environment where students identify, research and apply knowledge in a setting which replicates, at least in part, the world where it is practiced. It almost inevitably means that the student takes on some aspect of a case and conducts this as it would be conducted in the real world”. In other words, allowing students to apply their knowledge in a controlled environment, bridging the gap between theoretical study and actual practice.

Technology and Artificial Intelligence: Emerging legal pedagogies are incorporating technology to enhance learning outcomes. Virtual simulations, online modules, open-source resources, data analysis, AI visual presentation, and artificial intelligence platforms are being used to create interactive scenarios for students to engage with legal proceedings, negotiation exercises, and drafting practices. This allows for hybrid or fully online courses, making legal education more accessible. While tools like CaseText and ROSS Intelligence provide AI tools to understand legal queries, open educational resources provide cost-effective alternatives to traditional textbooks. However, technology-driven learning requires resources, faculty, and facilities, with concerns about the misuse of AI platforms for academic assessments and publications.

Case study method: The case study method is a valuable tool in clinical legal education, providing students with a real-world context to apply legal theory and develop practical skills. By analyzing detailed case studies, students can delve into complex legal issues, identify relevant legal principles, and explore potential solutions. This approach not only enhances critical thinking and problem-solving abilities but also fosters a deeper understanding of the potential impact of International Economic law.

Collaborative Method: The collaborative methods in clinical legal education foster active learning and skill development by encouraging dialogue, shared decision-making, and mutual respect. Students actively participate in case analysis, research, and client representation under faculty guidance, developing critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills. This collaborative approach bridges the gap between theory and practice, equipping students with the confidence and competence to become effective legal professionals.

The TradeLab-India initiative spearheaded by the Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) stands at the forefront of capacity building of legal education and practice in international economic law. By fostering collaboration between academia, industry stakeholders, and policymakers, TradeLab not only equips students with practical, real-world experience but also contributes to shaping the future of India’s engagement with global trade and investment issues. Through its focus on interdisciplinary learning, clinical legal education, and the integration of emerging technologies, the initiative is preparing a new generation of legal professionals capable of navigating the complexities of a rapidly evolving global economy. The TradeLab Conference 2024 will further amplify these efforts, promoting deeper dialogue on the values of multilateralism, the challenges of a fragmented world, and the innovative solutions needed to address the pressing issues in international trade and investment law today.

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Conference Objectives:

- **Enhanced Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing:** The conference aims to improve collaboration and knowledge sharing between academics, practitioners, and policymakers in international trade and investment law, resulting in innovative solutions to tackle new challenges.
 - **Advanced Pedagogical Approaches:** The conference will focus on discussing new teaching methods in legal education, aiming to improve effectiveness and practicality in law schools.
 - **Strengthened TradeLab Network:** The conference will connect students, faculty, and practitioners from various institutions to strengthen the TradeLab network and encourage collaboration on research projects and capacity-building initiatives.
 - **Policy Recommendations and Advocacy:** The conference will discuss important international trade and investment law issues, including multilateralism, regional agreements, and digital technology's impact on trade. Recommendations made at the event can help shape policy decisions and promote reforms.
 - **Student Empowerment and Skill Development:** The conference allows students to showcase research, gain exposure to industry experts, and develop critical skills for successful careers in international trade and investment law.
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DAY 1: Friday, 13th December 2024

OPENING SESSION AND WORKSHOP ON TEACHING PEDAGOGY

Time	Sessions
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome Coffee
CLOSED SESSIONS	
9:30 – 9:40	Welcome Address <i>Dr. James J. Nedumpara</i> – Vice President, TradeLab and Head and Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment
9:40 – 10:00	Introductory Remarks <i>Dr. Jan Yves Remy</i> – Co-President, TradeLab and Director, Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services, University of West Indies <i>Prof. Katrin Kuhlmann</i> – Co-President, TradeLab and Professor, Graduate and International Programs, Georgetown University Law Center
10:00 – 13:00	Roundtable Conference of Trade Lab Supervisors <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A summary of 2024 objectives and accomplishments delivered by our Co-Presidents.• An open discussion where participants can exchange best practices, address concerns related to the TradeLab practicum, and explore emerging topics in the field.• Strategic planning for TradeLab's future, with a focus on shared priorities and goals.
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch and Registration for Open Sessions</i>
OPEN SESSIONS	
14:00-14:30	INAUGURATION SESSION Introductory Remarks by Dr. James J. Nedumpara (10 minutes) Vice President, TradeLab and Head, Centre for Trade and Investment Chief Guest's opening remarks: Mr. Sanjay Chadha (20 minutes) Former Additional Secretary, Government of India and Head, Public Policy for India and South Asia, Uber Technologies
14:30-15:30	Session 1: Experience-sharing by TradeLab India and interaction <u>Chair and Moderator:</u> <i>Mr. Satwik Shekhar</i> , Assistant Professor, CTIL <u>Speakers:</u>

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Time	Sessions
	<p><i>Dr. Utkarsh Mishra</i>, Assistant Professor and Director, CITIL, DNLU, Jabalpur</p> <p><i>Dr. Rosmy Joan</i>, Associate Professor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad</p> <p><i>Dr. Harsha Rajwanshi (virtual)</i>, Assistant Professor of Law, GNLU, Gandhinagar</p> <p><i>Mr. Shubh Kansal</i>, CTIL TradeLab Researcher and Student, MNLU Mumbai</p>
15:30 – 16:30	<p>Session 2: Scope and Opportunities of Clinical Education in International Legal Practicum</p> <p>Co-Chairs and Moderators: <i>Prof. Katrin Kuhlman and Dr. Jan Yves Remy (Co-Presidents, TradeLab)</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Ms. Altagracia Cuevas-Arthur</i>, European Public Law Organization, IE University <i>Dr. Caroline Henckels (virtual)</i>, Associate Professor, Monash University, Australia <i>Dr. Edna Ramirez-Robles</i>, Professor, University of Guadalajara, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico <i>Prof. Ajay Kr. Pandey</i>, Professor and Executive Director, Clinical Programmes, JGLS</p>
16:30 – 16:40	<p><i>Tea/Coffee</i></p>
16:40 – 17:40	<p>Session 3: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence in Teaching Pedagogy in International Trade</p> <p><i>Dr. Jan Yves Remy</i>, Co-President, TradeLab and Director, Shridath Ramphal Centre, University of West Indies</p> <p><i>Dr. Georgios Dimitropoulos</i>, Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar</p> <p><i>Dr. Tomasz Milej</i>, Chairperson, Public Law, Kenyatta University, Nairobi</p> <p><i>Prof. Tomer Broude</i>, Bessie and Michael Greenblatt QC Chair in Public and International Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem</p>
17:40 – 18:00	<p>Open House Discussion and Feedback</p>

13 December 2024 | 19:00h: Gala Dinner (by invitation only) at Hotel Lalit, New Delhi

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Hon'ble Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, Former Chief Justice of India

**followed by
DINNER**

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DAY 2: Saturday, 14th December 2024

PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Time	Sessions
9:30 – 9:45	Opening Remarks
9:45 – 11:00	<p>Panel 1: Trade for Inclusive Development: Empowering MSMEs and Beyond <i>Fostering Equitable Growth: Empowering Women, MSMEs, Championing Inclusive Development and Leveraging Technology</i></p> <p>Panelists <i>Dr. Jan Yves Remy</i>, Co-President, TradeLab and Director, Shridath Ramphal Centre, University of West Indies <i>Prof. Katrin Kuhlmann</i>, Co-President, TradeLab and Professor, Co-founder of the Center on Inclusive Trade and Development, Georgetown University, Washington D.C. <i>Dr. Facundo Perez Aznar</i>, Associate Professor of International Economic Law, Universidad de Buenos Aires <i>Dr. Tomasz Milej</i>, Chairperson, Public Law, Kenyatta University, Nairobi <i>Dr. Edna Ramirez-Robles</i>, Professor, University of Guadalajara, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico</p>
11:00 – 11:15	Tea/Coffee
11:15 – 11:25	<p>Student Presentation <i>Presentation of TradeLab Clinic by GNLU, Gandhinagar</i></p>
11:25 – 12:45	<p>Panel 2: Development-Oriented Approaches: Enhancing S&DT Precision and Efficiency <i>Strategies for Sustainable Development: Enhancing S&D Treatment Measures</i></p> <p>Panelists <i>Prof. Tomer Broude</i>, Bessie and Michael Greenblatt QC Chair in Public and International Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem <i>Mr. Thokozani James Ngwira</i>, Trade Law Expert, ESAMI-TRAPCA <i>Dr. James J. Nedumpara</i>, Vice President, TradeLab and Head, CTIL <i>Mr. Harsh Hiroo Gursahani</i>, Partner, PLR Chambers, New Delhi</p>
12:45 – 14:30	Lunch

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14:30 – 15:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Student Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Presentation of TradeLab Clinic Projects by QMUL (UK) and MNLU Mumbai</i></p>
15:00 – 16:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel 3: Trade and Investment Measures to Address Sustainability Objectives</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Achieving Sustainability Objectives through Compliance with Modern Trade and Investment Measures</i></p> <p>Panelists</p> <p><i>Prof. Katrin Kuhlmann</i>, Co-President, TradeLab and Professor, Co-founder of the Center on Inclusive Trade and Development, Georgetown University, Washington D.C.</p> <p><i>Dr. Michelle Q. Zang (virtual)</i>, Senior Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington</p> <p><i>Mr. Thokozani James Ngwira</i>, Trade Law Expert, ESAMI-TRAPCA</p>
Time	Sessions
	<p><i>Dr. Georgios Dimitropoulos</i>, Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar</p> <p><i>Ms. Ramya Raman</i>, Associate Partner, P&A Law Offices, New Delhi</p>
16:30 – 17:00	<i>Tea/Coffee</i>
17:00 – 17:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing Session and Acknowledgements</p> <p><i>Dr. Jan Yves Remy</i>, Co-President, TradeLab and Director, Shridath Ramphal Centre, University of West Indies</p> <p><i>Prof. Katrin Kuhlmann</i>, Co-President, TradeLab and Professor, Co-founder of the Center on Inclusive Trade and Development, Georgetown University, Washington D.C.</p> <p><i>Dr. James J. Nedumpara</i>, Vice President, TradeLab and Head, CTIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote of Thanks</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mr. Satwik Shekhar</i>, Assistant Professor, CTIL</p>



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