



Seed Funding

CALL FOR PAPERS

ImprovEUorGlobe – The UN 2030 Agenda in the EU Trade Policy: Improving Global Governance for a Sustainable New World

Abstract submission deadline: midnight 2 February 2023 (CET)

Una Europa, one of the European Alliances selected by the European Commission, brings together 11 major European Universities: Freie Universität Berlin, *Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna*, University College Dublin/ An Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath, Uniwersytet Jagielloński w Krakowie, University of Edinburgh, Helsingin Yliopisto (The University of Helsinki), Universiteit Leiden, KU Leuven, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Universität Zürich.

The Una Europa Seed Funding Project “**ImprovEUorGlobe – The UN 2030 Agenda in the EU Trade Policy: Improving Global Governance for a Sustainable New World**” involves six Una Europa Universities (Freie Universität Berlin, Uniwersytet Jagielloński w Krakowie, University of Edinburgh, Helsingin Yliopisto (The University of Helsinki), Universidad Complutense, *Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna* as project coordinator). It aims at providing a full and critical interdisciplinary overview of the EU trade policy in the light of **the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN 2030 Agenda**. In fact, both in the 2015 and 2021 European Union (EU) trade policy reviews, the European Commission declared that the EU common commercial policy has to be shaped, interpreted and applied so as to realize the 17 SDGs, which the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus on 25 September 2015. We are now halfway into the period envisaged in the UN 2030 Agenda, and the global challenges posed by the Covid pandemic, the Russia/Ukraine conflict, and an energy and food crisis make it urgent to check how things have progressed so far, and what the outlook is like. It is necessary to gauge the adequacy and effectiveness of the EU’s political and normative choices, and whether they can indeed contribute to making the world economy more sustainable. In other words, the question must be

asked whether **the tools of EU trade policy** needs reforming to improve our lives and our planet, and preserve the latter for future generations.

The **ImprovEUorGlobe research team** welcomes **original proposals** investigating how the new generations of EU free trade agreements, the autonomous EU sustainability measures (e.g. the proposed due diligence directive, CBAM and deforestation regulations) and, more generally, the activity of the EU in multilateral fora, as the WTO, or in international conferences for the update and revisions of strategic sustainability treaties, are fit for advancing the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda.

Submissions can consider how the EU, by negotiating and implementing trade agreements, designing incentives for developing countries, acting in international fora and organizations, and shaping other trade and development tools and policies, has been able or plans to promote:

- social justice;
- respect for human rights;
- high labour standards;
- protection and promotion of indigenous peoples and minorities rights;
- high environmental standards;
- preservation of biodiversity;
- transparency and participation in international decision making and management, also at domestic level.

This list is not exhaustive and further subjects are welcome within the overall theme of the call.

The ImprovEUorGlobe Call for Papers is reserved to **PhD candidates, post-doc and young researchers from all the 11 Una Europa Universities**. Applicants shall follow the procedure detailed below. The **seven best papers** will receive a **prize** in the form of travel grants (three travel grants of € 725 each; and four travel grants of € 810 each).

Paper submission procedure

Abstracts may be submitted in English by PhD candidates, post-doc and young researchers of all the eleven Una Europa Universities.

Submissions must not exceed 800 words, and have to be submitted to the following mail addresses: elisa.baroncini@unibo.it; Filippo.Fontanelli@ed.ac.uk; AnaMaria.DazaVargas@ed.ac.uk; genia.kostka@fu-berlin.de; reetta.toivanen@helsinki.fi; piotr.szwedo@uj.edu.pl; rregueir@ucm.es.

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

- The author's name and affiliation, contact details, including email address and phone number;
- A short (one-page) author's CV, including a list of relevant publications.

Timeline:

The deadline for the submission of *abstracts* is midnight 2 February 2023 (CET). We expect to be able to inform successful applicants by 11 February 2023. Successful applicants will be expected to develop their conference papers for presentation at the ImprovEUorGlobe Conference, which will take place in Bologna in July 2023.

Draft papers (6000-8000 words including footnotes) must be submitted by the authors on 16 April 2023. All the draft papers will be submitted to peer review by the Conference Convenors, with a view to their improvement for the Conference. The selection for the prize will be made on these draft papers.

Final papers must be submitted by 1 July 2023, and can be distributed to the participants to the Conference. The Conference will be held in hybrid format (online and in-person) and a recording will be uploaded on the ImprovEUorGlobe website. The selected papers will subsequently be published in the ImprovEUorGlobe open access volume edited by the Conference Convenors.

Convenors

- Prof. Elisa Baroncini, *Alma Mater Studiorum* - Università di Bologna (ImprovEUorGlobe Coordinator)
- Dr. Filippo Fontanelli, University of Edinburgh (ImprovEUorGlobe Chair)
- Dr. Ana Maria Daza Vargas, University of Edinburgh (ImprovEUorGlobe Academic Lead)
- Prof. Genia Kostka, Freie Universität Berlin (FUB) (ImprovEUorGlobe Academic Lead)
- Prof. Reetta Toivanen, Helsingin Yliopisto (The University of Helsinki) (ImprovEUorGlobe Academic Lead)
- Prof. Piotr Szewdo, Uniwersytet Jagielloński w Krakowie (ImprovEUorGlobe Academic Lead)
- Prof. Raquel Regueiro Dubra, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (ImprovEUorGlobe Academic Lead)



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