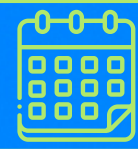




ImprovEUorGlobe Webinar Series:

**Sustainable Development in EU Trade Policy:
A Model to Follow or Room for Improvement?**



**27 APRIL
2023**



**16H - 18H
BRUSSELS TIME**

Program:

Chair: Cyprian Liske, PhD candidate at the Jagiellonian University

EU Trade-Climate in EU FTAs

Caroline Bertram, University of Copenhagen

**Circularity, Responsibility, and Innovation:
The EU's Strategy for Sustainable Textile Production**

Agata Krząstek, Kraków University of Economics)

**The EU and Digital Development in Africa:
From Development Goal to Geopolitical Agenda?**

Stephanie Arnold, University of Bologna

**Navigating the Troubled Waters of EU Marine Environmental Policies:
Where to Next?**

Sašo Gorjanc, University of St Andrews

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ImprovEUorGlobe Webinar Series:

Sustainable Development in EU Trade Policy: A Model to Follow or Room for Improvement?

Chair of Session: Cyprian Liske is pursuing his doctorate at the Jagiellonian University Doctoral School in the Social Sciences, focusing on the nexus between sustainable development and international trade law in the context of EU external policy. Cyprian graduated in Law (MA, long-cycle) from the Jagiellonian University and in Business Linguistics (BA) from the Tischner European University in Kraków. He is also an alumnus of the American Law Program conducted by the Columbus School of Law and of the English Law and Legal Methods International Summer Programme held at the University of Cambridge.

EU Trade-Climate in EU FTAs: The EU is strengthening the environmental protection provisions in its preferential trade agreements (PTAs). What are the legal and political possibilities and limitations of such interlinkages, focusing in particular on the Paris Agreement?

Caroline Bertram is a PhD Fellow at the University of Copenhagen, Department of Political Science. Her research investigates the EU's trade and sustainable development (TSD) agenda in external trade policy, mainly conditionality provisions in its preferential trade agreements. The research is interdisciplinary, drawing on both legal and political science concepts and methods. Before starting her PhD, Caroline worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark on trade policy.

Circularity, Responsibility, and Innovation - The EU's Strategy for Sustainable Textile Production: Can the negative environmental impact of fast fashion end? The EU's strategy for sustainable textile production addresses this issue. With a focus on circularity, responsibility, and innovation, it is a crucial step towards creating a more sustainable and responsible textile industry in the EU. Notably, the strategy may also impact trade by promoting sustainable practices throughout the textile supply chain and potentially influencing global textile trade standards. Ultimately, the strategy aims to address the negative environmental impact of fast fashion and promote more sustainable practices in the industry.

Agata Krząstek is a doctoral candidate at Cracow University of Economics focusing on consumer trends, new business models, value creation for customers and non-financial reporting. She holds a law degree and is currently pursuing a degree in international management and a postgrad in CSR. Agata is also responsible for sustainability in OTCF S.A. biggest Polish sportswear company implementing circular models and ESG strategy.

The EU and Digital Development in Africa: From Development Goal to Geopolitical Agenda?

From the early days, the idea of digital development was to bring progress for all peoples and across all countries. Yet, digital development has also opened new divides or exacerbated old ones. Therefore, making digital development “sustainable” became a policy priority among many development actors, including the European Union. Most recently, however, the EU’s approach to digital development shifted and it is no longer just a “(sustainable) development goal” but assumed geopolitical relevance. The Global Gateway is a case in point. Does this change imply a shift away from “sustainable digital development” or can it underpin it?

Stephanie Arnold is a PhD candidate at the University of Bologna (Italy) and a PhD fellow at the United Nations University CRIS in Bruges (Belgium). Her research focuses on the role of foreign actors (i.e., China, EU) in the digital development of Sub-Saharan Africa.

Navigating the Troubled Waters of EU Marine Environmental Policies: Where to Next?

EU marine policy portfolio is vast and complex, including hundreds of different policies with often contradictory objectives. While the EU is committing to more ambitious environmental and conservation targets, the goals of pursuing the doubling of EU’s Blue Economy by 2030, increasing the food and energy self-sufficiency and increasing the often dominating role of EU’s ports in international shipping and trading routes remain. Choosing among the numerous policy objectives and priorities thus becomes a crucial aspect of policy implementation in the EU.

Sašo Gorjanc is a doctoral student at the School of Geography and Sustainable Development, University of St Andrews and also holds an MSc in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Management from University of Oxford and BSc in Environmental Science from Aberystwyth University. His current research focuses on the influence of social constructions among the key policy actors on the implementation of the EU marine environmental policies. This works builds on his experience working both on EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Nature Directives, Maritime Spatial Planning Directive, and Barcelona Convention in the Slovenian, Adriatic, and Mediterranean contexts.