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Prof. *Alessandra Castellini*, EU trade policy and economic integration: definition and effects

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Alessandra Castellini is Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics and Appraisal at the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences (Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna). She earned a PhD in “Agricultural Economics and Policy” and teaches Strategic Management, Economics of international agro-industrial markets, Principles of Economics. Furthermore, she leads a Laboratory for master students about Business creation and Entrepreneurship. Current research interests include the study of the agrifood markets and marketing surveys on the behaviour of the consumer of food products, with specific topics regarding technical-economic analysis of production systems also linked to circular economic aspects, the value chain mapping and evaluation, the consumers perceptions towards innovative foods. As regards international trade analysis, she is working on GI products export within the ARISE+ - Indonesia Trade Support Facility, funded by the EU. She is currently involved in the H2020 project AgriFoodBoost and working on new proposals addressed to Horizon Europe calls. She authored more than 100 papers, part of them published in international peer-reviewed journals.

Title: EU trade policy and economic integration: definition and effects

Abstract

The EU is involved in many trade and economic agreements aimed at strengthening preferential relationships with countries and promoting better conditions of trade (free trade areas with low or zero barriers, mutual recognition, ...). These preferential agreements can assume different shapes, as well as economic integration, can be more or less intensive. This process opens new trade areas through a liberalization process but at the same time produces discrimination towards third countries. Furthermore, it is important to underline that economic integration can produce two opposite effects called trade creation and trade diversion.