CALL FOR PROJECTS

University of Ottawa & Queen’s University Joint Practicum, Canada

Who We Are  TradeLab is an association under Swiss Law based in Geneva, bringing together students, academics and legal practitioners with the aim of empowering countries and smaller stakeholders to reap the full development benefits of global trade and investment rules.

Aim of TradeLab  To Make Global Economic Regulation Work for Everyone

How  Through pro bono legal clinics and practica, TradeLab connects students and experts to developing countries, SME’s, NGOs and other stakeholders to build lasting legal capacity. Through ‘learning by doing’, TradeLab wants to train and promote the next generation of trade and investment lawyers.

What are Legal Clinics

The legal clinics and practica are composed of small groups of highly qualified and carefully selected students who work on specific questions of international economic law posed by beneficiaries. The students work under the close supervision of one or more Professors (Academic Supervisors) and are teamed up with experts (Mentors) who lend their knowledge, time and feedback to the students, pro bono. At the end of the semester, students submit and present the output tailored to the beneficiary’s needs.

TradeLab clinics and practica are win-win for all involved: beneficiaries get expert work done for free, helping them build capacity; students learn by doing, obtain academic credit, expand their network and get an opportunity to work on real-life legal issues; faculty and expert mentors share their knowledge on cutting-edge issues and are able to attract or hire top students with proven skills.

Why

International rules on cross-border trade and investment are increasingly complex. There is the WTO, World Bank, UNCTAD, but also hundreds of investment treaties and free trade agreements. Each has its own negotiation, implementation and dispute settlement system. Everyone is affected but few have the time and resources to fully engage.

TradeLab Network

- Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C.
- Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Washington, D.C.
- The Graduate Institute, Geneva
- The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem
- International Economic Law and Policy (IELPO), Barcelona
- Jindal Global Law School, Haryana
- Monash University, Melbourne
- Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore
- University of Ottawa
- Queen’s University, Kingston
- Trade Policy Training Centre in Africa (TRAPCA), Arusha
- University of the West Indies, Barbados

How to submit a project

If you or your organization have a project in mind or want to learn more about TradeLab, please visit www.tradelab.org, send an email to info@tradelab.org.
or contact the TradeLab Coordinator at coordinator@tradelab.org.

All requests will be treated confidentially.

Who do we help

![Beneficiaries](chart)

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<th>Inter-Governmental Organizations, 22%</th>
<th>SME/Cooperative/Business Associations, 7%</th>
<th>NGO, 28%</th>
<th>Individuals, 3%</th>
<th>Think tanks/Research units, 3%</th>
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Governments, 37%

Type of projects

TradeLab can assist with different types of international economic law projects:

1. **Information**: Build legal capacity through researching, simplifying and making international economic law more accessible.
2. **Negotiation**: Offer background research and support in the negotiation of trade and investment agreements.
3. **Compliance**: Provide compliance assessment of proposed or existing legislation, drafting of model legislation or advocacy positions in the context of existing agreements on trade and investment.
4. **Litigation**: Assist in preparing litigation briefs (including amicus briefs), third party submissions, and legal memoranda at the WTO, in investor-state arbitration and other fora.

Examples of completed projects

Established in 2008 at The Graduate Institute, Geneva, TradeLab legal clinics have completed over 160 unique projects on international economic law matters and trained more than 480 students.

**Trade and Gender and International Practices**

Identification and sharing of best practices for gender inclusive trade policies.

**Trade Secretariat Support for Ad Hoc Panels under FTAs: Options and Challenges**

Examining legal, logistical and administrative challenges faced by ad hoc panels under FTAs.

**The U.S. Response to Brexit**

Explores the US’ third-party rights and obligations under the WTO in the context of Brexit.

**Fisheries Subsidies: Buenos Aires and Beyond**

Summarizing developments and charting way forward for progress at the WTO.

**Disclaimer:** All projects prepared and published by TradeLab law clinics are done on a pro bono basis by students for research purposes only. The projects do not reflect the opinions of TradeLab and/or the academic institutions affiliated with TradeLab. The projects do not in any way constitute legal advice and do not, in any manner, create an attorney-client relationship. The projects do not, in any way, or at any time, bind or lead to any form of liability or responsibility on the part of the clinic participants, participating academic institutions, or TradeLab.

Academic Supervisors

- Debra Steger, Hyman Soloway Chair in Business & Trade Law, University of Ottawa
- Tony VanDuzer, Professor, University of Ottawa (anthony.vanduzer@uottawa.ca)
- Wolfgang Alschener, Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa
- Nicolas Lamp, Assistant Professor, Queen’s University (nicolas.lamp@queensu.ca)
- Valerie Hughes, Adjunct Professor, Queen’s University

Timetable

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<tr>
<th>June - December</th>
<th>Project submission, initial discussion with beneficiaries to identify legal questions; selection of projects</th>
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<tr>
<td>January - February</td>
<td>Selection of students and teams; meeting between students and beneficiaries; skills workshops</td>
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<td>March – April</td>
<td>Research, mentor sessions, draft report, mid-term presentations, feedback from supervisors and mentors</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>Delivery of final written report, oral presentation</td>
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