

Stephen Woolcock, LSE
The rise of bilateralism: comparing European and American FTAs

NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Series

Wednesday, 24 March 2010, 12.15 – 13.45

Silva Casa Auditorium, World Trade Institute, University of Bern
Hallerstrasse 6, 3012 Bern, Switzerland

Invitation

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

It is a pleasure to invite you to the NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Seminar on **The rise of bilateralism: comparing European and American FTAs** by Stephen Woolcock, London School of Economics.

Abstract

Bilateral trade and investment agreements are now a central feature of the international trading system alongside the multilateral order of the WTO. To date the debate on the rise of such preferential agreements has focused on its implications for multilateralism. In recent years there has been more of a discussion on how to ensure compatibility between preferential agreements and multilateralism. But the debate has seldom got much past generalisations. Based on a book of by Woolcock and Heydon of the same title published by UN University Press, this session will ask whether these bilaterals build on established generally accepted principles, which can mean compatibility with multilateral efforts, or whether they set distinct standards that will make future multilateralisation more difficult?

Information about the Speaker

Dr Stephen Woolcock is a lecturer in international relations at the London School of Economics and Head of the LSE's [International Trade Policy Unit](#). He has written on

regional and bilateral trade agreements, the WTO in general as well as European Union trade policy.

Please feel free to forward this invitation. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

More information related to the event can be found at: <http://www.nccr-trade.org/>

Participation is free of charge, no registration is needed.

We warmly welcome you to join our seminar at the World Trade Institute!

Yours sincerely,

François Rossé

Junior Research Fellow

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NCCR Trade Regulation Brown Bag Seminars are informal 45-minute presentations, given by external or in-house researchers. The presentations are followed by a 45-minute Q&A session and/or group discussion. Everyone is welcome to join and, in general, it is not necessary to sign up. The Brown Bag concept comes from the US; it means that people bring their own lunch (in a brown bag...) and eat it during the presentation.