

Trade, Law *and* Development

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Special Issue

“Reimagining Global Trade: Industrial Policy and Strategic Autonomy in a Changing Global Order”

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Founded in 2009, the philosophy of *Trade, Law and Development* (TL&D) has been to generate and sustain a constructive and democratic debate on emergent issues in international economic law and to serve as a forum for the discussion and distribution of ideas. Towards these ends, the Journal has published works by noted scholars such as the WTO DDG Yonov F. Agah, Dr. (Prof.) Ernst Ulrich Petersmann, Prof. Christian Häberli, Prof. Petros Mavroidis, Prof. Mitsuo Matsuhita, Prof. Raj Bhala, Prof. Joel Trachtman, Dr. (Prof.) Gabrielle Marceau, Prof. Simon Lester, Prof. Bryan Mercurio, and Prof. M. Sornarajah, among others. TL&D also has the distinction of being ranked the best journal in India across all fields of law for seven consecutive years by Washington and Lee University, School of Law.

Pursuant to this philosophy, the Board of Editors of *Trade, Law and Development* is pleased to announce “*Reimagining Global Trade: Industrial Policy and Strategic Autonomy in a Changing Global Order*” as the theme for its next Special Issue (Vol. XVIII, No. 1).

Over the past decade, the foundations of the global trading system have undergone a profound transformation. The post-war consensus that trade liberalisation, market-led growth, and minimal state intervention would serve as the principal drivers of economic development is increasingly being replaced by a renewed emphasis on industrial policy, strategic autonomy, and economic security. Across major economies, governments are actively deploying subsidies, domestic content requirements, export controls, investment screening mechanisms, and preferential procurement policies to strengthen domestic industries, secure critical supply chains, and advance geopolitical and technological objectives.

This resurgence of state-led economic governance has accelerated in response to geopolitical tensions, supply-chain vulnerabilities, climate transition imperatives, and competition in emerging technologies. Measures such as the United States' CHIPS and Science Act and Inflation Reduction Act, the European Union's Green Deal Industrial Plan and Critical Raw Materials Act, India's Production Linked Incentive Schemes, and China's advanced manufacturing initiatives reflect a broader shift towards strategic economic policymaking. Consequently, international trade is no longer governed solely by traditional principles of market access and non-discrimination; it is increasingly shaped by considerations of resilience, technological sovereignty, national security, and sustainable development.

These developments present significant challenges for international economic law. Existing WTO disciplines on subsidies, national security exceptions, investment regulation, and digital trade were largely designed for an era in which state intervention was comparatively limited. As industrial policy becomes a central feature of economic governance, questions arise regarding the adequacy of current legal frameworks, the future of multilateralism, the proliferation of regional and plurilateral arrangements, and the implications of these shifts for developing economies. Understanding the legal foundations, policy rationales, and institutional consequences of this transformation is essential to assessing the future architecture of global trade and international economic law.

While the theme is broad enough to cover a wide range of issues, an indicative list of specific areas is as follows:

- Industrial Policy and the Future of WTO Subsidy Disciplines
- National Security Exceptions and Strategic Autonomy in Trade
- Critical Minerals and Resource Governance
- Green Industrial Policy, Climate Measures, and Trade
- Digital Trade, Digital Industrial Policy, and Technological Sovereignty
- Artificial Intelligence, Data Governance and Trade
- Developing Economies and the Future of Global Trade
- Industrial Policy and the Transformation of Global Value Chains
- Investment Screening and Economic Security
- Export Controls and Technology Transfer Restrictions
- Plurilateralism and the Transformation of Trade Governance

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These sub-issues are not exhaustive, and the Journal is open to receiving submissions on all aspects related to the theme relating to Industrial Policy and Strategic Autonomy and their impact both on the international trade regime and the global trading system.

Accordingly, the Board of Editors of *Trade, Law and Development* is pleased to invite original, unpublished manuscripts for publication in the Special Issue of the Journal (Vol. XVIII, No. 1) in the form of ‘Articles’, ‘Notes’, ‘Comments’ and ‘Book Reviews’, focusing on the theme “*Reimagining Global Trade: Industrial Policy and Strategic Autonomy in a Changing Global Order*”.

Manuscripts received by September 30, 2026, pertaining to any sub-theme within the purview of challenges faced by international trade, will be reviewed for publication in the Special issue.

Manuscripts may be submitted via e-mail or the Journal’s website [here](#). For further information about the Journal, please click [here](#). For submission guidelines, please click [here](#).

In case of any queries, please feel free to contact us at: [tradelawdevelopmentnluj\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:tradelawdevelopmentnluj[at]gmail[dot]com).

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

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