



Empowering Impactful Research in Global Economic Governance

As a leading interdisciplinary academic institution, the World Trade Institute (WTI) provides excellent training and research in the field of global economic governance. To support knowledge-based policy making in emerging economies and encourage participation in research networks, the WTI aims to support Visiting Research Fellows from emerging economies by granting full scholarships for a one-year Fellowship programme.

University of Bern
World Trade Institute
(WTI)



The WTI has been committed to building global networks and academic collaborations around the world.

Background Scientific evidence and expertise can inform and improve government policy. Worldwide, the demand for high-quality researchers who can help shape knowledge-based public policy is growing. This need is particularly acute in emerging economies, where knowledge-based policy making is often lacking as governments do not sufficiently seek inputs from their research community or struggle to find relevant experts. One important barrier for greater impact is lack of funding in higher education in many developing economies.¹

Consequently, students and researchers often do not have access to an established academic structure that fosters their knowledge and efforts on an advanced level. This hinders promising young talents from building their skills and gaining experience in high-quality research. As a result, in many emerging economies high-level research is difficult to access. However, academic achievements would not only offer beneficial experiences to young talents but would also aid the development of government policies.²

For the past 25 years the World Trade Institute (WTI) has been committed to closing this gap by building the capabilities of scholars globally. It has a long and successful history of research collaboration with universities in countries such as South Africa, Chile, Peru,

Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam. However, more effort is needed to provide individuals from emerging economies in particular with the ability to access high-quality training in research as well as grow their professional networks.

Overall Goal Provide young researchers from emerging economies with opportunities to:

- get access to state-of-the-art research and key publications
- build skills in high-quality and impactful research
- build and expand their professional networks globally
- enhance their career prospects as academics and teachers in their home countries and communities
- build long-term research collaborations across borders

Our strategy To address the lack of excellence in research locally, the WTI aims to establish a Visiting Research Fellowship Programme and support two young researchers annually through a full one-year scholarship.

Outcomes

- Empower future research leaders from emerging economies
- Build the basis for sustainable research partnerships
- Support knowledge-based public policy to help deliver tangible societal benefits



Prof. Manfred Elsig
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„Hosting research fellows from all corners of the world has been an eye-opening and mutually rewarding experience and has led to many sustainable research partnerships across borders“

1. Haddon, C. & Sasse, T. How academia can work with government. London: Institute for Government, (2019).

2. Arocena, R., Göransson, B. & Sutz, J. Knowledge policies and universities in developing countries: Inclusive development and the developmental university. *Technology in Society*, 10-20, (2015).

Financial Need The costs for a one-year stay at the WTI including a monthly allowance to cover living costs, office-related costs and WTI's support services as well as a stipend to cover travel expenses are as follows:

Project Costs/Fellowship	CHF
Stipend (12 months) ³	40'800
Office-related costs	3'000
WTI support services	1'350
Travel expenses	2'000
Total Fellowship expenses	47'350
Project-related overheads (6%)	2'841
Total project costs/scholarship	50'191

Visiting Research Fellowship The call for applications for the Visiting Research Fellowship will be promoted on relevant platforms. The attribution of the scholarships will be based on a thorough review of the candidates' proposed research projects. Furthermore, candidates will be asked to write a motivation letter sharing their ideas about making the most of their scholarship opportunity. A committee consisting of in-house and external experts will rank the submissions along a predetermined evaluation grid and designate the final recipients after personal interviews. The visiting researchers will team up with a respective WTI professor to define objectives and elaborate their joint research activities during the stay. This allows for instant integration in research projects and mutual learning. The need for special methods training will be discussed and on a case-by-case basis addressed.

The visiting research fellows are provided with desk space and an IT set-up for the duration of their stay. The WTI library offers a wide collection of literature on international trade and investment. In addition, it houses a collection of reports and decisions by the European Court of Justice as well as a wide variety of WTO-related materials. Through the University library, access is granted to a large number of journals, trade-related law sources and databases. Research fellows are also encouraged to participate in the Summer and Winter Academy courses, where renowned experts teach how to blend the policy aspects of trade and investment with thorough legal interpretation and economic analysis. They will also be invited to join the Global Economic Governance seminar series. Furthermore, they will also have the opportunity to present their research at the Brown Bag lunch meetings. All these events will help the visiting research fellows to connect with the WTI community and establish valuable contacts with other professionals and lecturers.

The World Trade Institute (WTI)

The WTI is a leading interdisciplinary academic institution dedicated to graduate-level studies, research and outreach activities on international trade regulation and investment. As a centre of excellence at the University of Bern, the World Trade Institute explores the interconnections between the fields of law, economics and political science. With an established global network of partners, the WTI is at the forefront of interdisciplinary research in international trade regulation and investment.

The researchers of the institute study pressing questions related to trade and investment policies, explore and collect data, and provide policy recommendations around how trade relates to topics such as migration, environment and climate change, investment, agriculture and food security, energy as well as commodities and development.

The WTI offers a variety of courses and classes. Among them two Masters and a doctoral programme: The Master of Advanced Studies in International Law, Economics and Politics has been one of the world's leading programmes of advanced studies in the field of international trade regulation. The TRAIL+ (LL.M in International Trade and Investment Law) is specially designed for students and professionals with a legal background interested in specialising in international economic law with an interdisciplinary outlook on the global economy and trade policy.

The WTI also runs a doctoral programme in economics, political science and law and offers a number of in-house interdisciplinary modules that focus on theory development and state-of-the-art empirical research methods.



Victor Saco Chung
Professor at Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru

„My time at the WTI has greatly improved my research skills and allowed me to develop valuable research partnerships and therefore further my career prospects as an academic in Peru. After I returned to Peru, I started working for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from there went on to become full-time professor at PUCP in Lima, my home university.“

³. Student Financing:
https://www.unibe.ch/studies/organizational_matters/student_financing/financial_matters/index_eng.html

UniBE Foundation

The UniBE Foundation encourages and supports the University of Bern so that a new generation of researchers can develop pioneering and globally acclaimed solutions for the economy of the future, sustainable habitats, and an ethical standard of living. The Foundation orients its funding according to the University's strategy, placing particular emphasis on excellence, innovation, and potential for the future.

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