



Cheers to 30 Years: Entering a New Era of Multilateral Trade Rules

PROGRAMME

Date: Wednesday 29th October 2025

Location: TLG11 (Lecture Theatre), The City Law School, City St George's, University of London, EC1V 0HB

Format: In person and online (Microsoft Teams)

Duration: Half Day (3-4 hours)

Time	Activity	Speaker
13:00	Opening Remarks	Welcome and introduction by Dean of The City Law School, Prof. Richard Ashcroft.
13:15 – 13:45	The Historical Significance of the WTO	Speaker: Samer Seif El Yazal, Chief of Section, ITTC, WTO
13:45 – 14:15	TRIPS: Success and limitations of the TRIPS Agreement at 30 years	Speaker: Tanuja Garde, Director, IPD, WTO
14:15 – 14:30	Coffee/Tea Break	All participants
14:30 – 15:00	Economic Diplomacy at the WTO: A Cinderella Story?	Speaker: Prof. Gregory Messenger, University of Bristol
15:00-15:30	Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement: Are We Any Closer to International Investment Governance?	Speaker: Dr. Alexandros Bakos, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
15:30 – 16:00	The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: Lessons for Implementation	Speaker: Manuel Quindimil, Independent Trade Expert
16:00 – 16:15	Conversation with Amb. Manley on his experience working as UK ambassador to the WTO	Moderator: Cheryl Dine Speaker: Amb. Simon Manley, former Ambassador

		of the UK to the UN, WTO and other international organisations
16:15 – 16:45	World Trade Resiliency: Can the WTO Keep Pace with Emerging Challenges in Technology and Geopolitical Shifts?	Chair: Prof. David Collins, City In person panellists: Samer Seif El Yazal (WTO); Dr. Ohiocheoya Omiunu (Kent); Prof. Gregory Messenger (Bristol); Talha Boyaz (City)
16:45 – 17:00	Closing Remarks	Summary of discussions and closing comments by the moderator.
17:00 – 19:00	Networking cocktail at the Hotel Indigo London Clerkenwell by IHG, 2 Clerkenwell Rd, London EC1M 5PQ *Please note that the cost of drinks will be the responsibility of each attendee.	Opportunity for informal networking among participants.