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Private International
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State University
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Challenges of international trade and investment in the 21st century

international online conference for junior scholars

June 30, 2022

The conference is jointly organized by the Department of Private International Law and Department of Commercial Law, Faculty of Law, Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University; the Department of Private International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged; and the Doctoral School of Legal Sciences, State University of Moldova.

The 21st century has been marked by new challenges facing the global economy in general, and international trade and investment in particular. The world economy is currently undergoing irreversible transformation. The 2008 economic crisis triggered the crisis of neoliberal capitalism. National economies have been facing the problem of indebtedness for years now, which is becoming increasingly difficult to solve. In addition, high inflation and recession are looming on a global scale. Economies are becoming increasingly anti-globalist and isolationist. Earlier achievements of multilateralism and market liberalizations seem to disappear. All this has serious effects on international trade and investment. At the same time, powerful multinational companies continue to operate on an all-encompassing, global scale and sometimes ruthlessly compete for markets and resources under the new circumstances on the world stage. In some countries, this led to the so-called “business leads politics” phenomenon. Due to the presence of these factors, many experts talk about future low growth rates of the world economy and various risks, which will not only affect international trade and investment, but also create new problems in the legal relationship between the subjects of international law. Intensification of competition at the geo-economic level might in turn lead to the intensification of negative processes in international trade and investment. And this might lead to serious challenges for small and mid-sized economies like that of Moldova, Hungary or Turkey. Therefore, the primary aim of the conference is to examine the challenges of international trade and investment in the 21st century by identifying legal issues and finding potential solutions.

Conference program

Opening remarks

9.00 – 9.15 (CET) Zoltan Vig (senior lecturer, Department of Private International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

Session 1

Chair: Zoltan Vig

9.15-9.30 EU DCFTAs: carrot-and-stick?

Thembi P. Madalane (PhD student, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

9.30-9.45 The EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA): opportunities and challenges for Vietnam

Nguyen Thi Quynh (PhD student, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

9.45-10.00 Sharing economy and consumer rights according to EU law

Tamás István Stipkovits (PhD student, Faculty of Law, Széchenyi István University)

10.00-10.15 Future of EU-UK trade relations in light of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement

Gábor Hajdu (junior research fellow, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies and junior research fellow, Department of Private International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

Session 2

Chair: Tuğçe Nimet Yaşar (senior lecturer, Department of Commercial Law, Faculty of Law, Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University)

10.30-10.45 Application and scope of most favored nation clauses in bilateral investment treaties: can most favored nation clauses be applied to issues of procedure and jurisdiction in investor-state dispute settlement?

Emre Koluman (PhD candidate, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

10.45-11.00 ICSID problems related to jurisdiction

Irina Iacovleva (Moldovan State University)

11.00-11.15 Can the procedural flexibility during the COVID-19 pandemic lead to an inflexible recognition of arbitral awards?

Gabriel Diaciuc (senior associate, Stratulat-Albulescu Attorneys at Law)

11.15-11.30 The critique of reform proposals for ISDS: key solutions for existing and future problems

Muhammad Abdul Khaliq (PhD candidate, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

Session 3

Chair: Aliona Cara-Rusnac (associate professor, Department of Private Law, Faculty of Law, Moldova State University)

11.45-12.00 Acquisition of citizenship by investment (*ius pecuniae*): the case of Turkey

Bengi Sargin (PhD candidate, Institute of Social Sciences, Faculty of Law, Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University and research assistant, Department of Private International Law, Faculty of Law, Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University)

12.00-12.15 To what extent can tax incentives be challenged under the WTO's Subsidy Agreement?

Shady Mawad (PhD candidate, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

12.30-12.45 Decentralized economy and its challenges for the legal system

Bedrettin Gürçan (PhD candidate, Faculty of Law, University of Szeged)

Closing remarks

12.45-13.15 Aliona Cara-Rusnac, Tuğçe Nimet Yaşar, Gábor Hajdu