



AFRONOMICSLAW ACADEMIC FORUM
INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

**CRITICAL AND CONTEXTUAL PERSPECTIVES ON
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW:
AMPLIFYING THE VOICES OF AFRICAN STUDENTS
AND EARLY-CAREER RESEARCHERS**

5 FEBRUARY 2022 | VIRTUAL
09:00 SAST / 10:00 EAT - 16:00 SAST / 17:00 EAT

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**Critical and Contextual Perspectives on International Economic Law:
Amplifying the Voices of African Students and Early-Career Researchers**

PROGRAMME

Date: 5th of February, 2022

Location: Zoom

OPENING AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Keynote speaker: Professor Babatunde Fagbayibo (University of South Africa - UNISA)

Time: 09:15 - 10:00 SAST / 10:15 - 11:00 EAT

1A: IMPLEMENTING LESSONS FROM THE WTO TO CHART A PATH FORWARD FOR AFRICA

Panel Chair: Dr Tsotang Tsietsi (National University of Lesotho)

Time: 10:15 - 11:15 SAST / 11:15 - 12:15 EAT

1. **Gerald Ndobya:** The Africa Continental Free Trade Area and the SPS Agreement: Insights for Africa
2. **Kanyiso Kezile:** A proposal for increasing participation of developing countries in the World Trade Organization dispute settlement system
3. **Olavi Nangolo:** Looking at the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Tribunal through the eye(s) of the WTO's dispute settlement mechanism

1B: CONTEMPORARY TRADE-RELATED ISSUES OF TECHNOLOGY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW IN AFRICA

Panel Chair: Dr Titilayo Adebola (Aberdeen Law School)

Time: 10:15 - 11:15 SAST / 11:15 - 12:15 EAT

1. **Megan Kathure:** Heraldng privacy concerns in AfCFTA's proposed E-commerce Protocol
2. **Nteboheng Mosese:** Access to medicine during pandemics and the TRIPS problem
3. **Shanaaz Speelman:** The Inequality of the COVID-19 Vaccine
4. **Sharlene Kapere and Ali Abdilatif:** A commentary on Titilayo Adebola's 'Mapping Africa's Complex Regimes: Towards an African Centred AfCFTA Intellectual Property Protocol'

2A: CONTEXTUALISING INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW AND POLICY IN AFRICA (Part 1)

Panel Chair: Dr Paolo Vargiu (Leicester Law School)

Time: 11:30 - 12:30 SAST / 12:30 - 13:30 EAT

1. **Sharon Nyaga:** The double-edged sword of FDI inflows to gender equality
2. **Vesora Kaurimuye:** Stabilization clauses and their effect on developing countries
3. **Takudzwa Mazire:** A literature review on Africa-China relations with a specific focus on labour standards and technology transfer.
4. **Arnold Nciko wa Nciko and Sydney Tambasi:** Problematising Dr Stewart's 'Competition Regimes in the Caribbean Community and Sub-Saharan Africa' - thinking not only race but also class

2B: STRENGTHENING REGIONAL INTEGRATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (Part 1)

Panel Chair: Vellah Kedogo Kigwiru (Technical University of Munich)

Time: 11:30 - 12:30 SAST / 12:30 - 13:30 EAT

1. **Rogers Andagalu:** Strengthening East African Community economy through the implementation of Division of Competences
2. **Arthur Chakanyuka:** An evaluative discussion on whether the African Continental Free Trade Area is really necessary for sustainable economic development in Africa.
3. **Ester Antonio:** The commercialization ability of SADC countries in the future: How the new economic trends will determine the position of SADC at the international market.
4. **Mpeo Matsipa:** Implementation of the AfCFTA in Least Developed Countries: Bold or premature?

LUNCH

Time: 12:30 -13:15 SAST / 13:30 - 14:15 EAT

3A: STRENGTHENING REGIONAL INTEGRATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (Part 2)

Panel Chair: Dr Clair Gammage (University of Bristol)

Time: 13:15 - 14:15 SAST / 14:15 - 15:15 EAT

1. **Yankho Mwandiya:** A review of the role of women leadership in facilitating regional integration in Africa: the way forward
2. **Mwendwa Bai Lubinda:** Regional Economic Community synergy in trade
3. **Sharon Raston:** Southern African Development Community (SADC) Economic Bloc and the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA): Challenges
4. **Patrick Anam:** Assessing the challenges of Services Trade Liberalization in Regional Trade Agreements: A study of the East African Community Common Market Protocol

3B: DRAWING LESSONS FROM DOMESTIC APPROACHES TO REGULATING THE EFFECTS OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW

Panel Chair: Dr Regis Y Simo (Queen's University, Belfast)

Time: 13:15-14:15 SAST / 14:15 -15:15 EAT

1. **Alexander Chibayo:** The unceasing war against corruption - a study on the financial resources plunder during the Covid-19 pandemic in Malawi
2. **Wayne Rukero:** AfCFTA Investment Protocol Negotiations and the case of Namibia: A call for regional regulatory harmonization *vis-à-vis* investment policy in Africa
3. **Ruth Chewes:** Africa's trade falls in the Arms of COVID-19 – a Case Study of Zambia.
4. **Azminah Jetham:** Hopes for an Anti-Monopoly Agenda in the AfCFTA Competition Protocol

4A: ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND PUBLIC FINANCE IN AFRICA (DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS)

Panel Chair: Jason Braganza (African Forum and Network on Debt and Development - AFRODAD)

Time: 14:30 - 15:30 SAST / 15:30 - 16:30 EAT

1. **Carol-Lee Pick:** Evaluating the merits of forgiving the Odious Debts of Developing Countries in Africa post the COVID-19 Pandemic
2. **Lucas Ricardo:** African Sovereign Debt Crisis: Initial thoughts on monetary integration for a long-term solution
3. **Dominee Ndlovu:** Readiness for the AfCFTA by Member States' Domestic Tax Policies

4B: CONTEXTUALISING INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW AND POLICY IN AFRICA (Part 2)

Panel Chair: Professor Olabisi Akinkugbe (Schulich School of Law)

Time: 14:30 - 15:30 SAST / 15:30 - 16:30 EAT

1. **Kathleen Mpofu:** Investment for sustainable development: Opportunities and challenges for the African Continental Free Trade Area Investment Protocol
2. **Khalil Badbess:** Locating Fragmentation in the 'Africanization' of International Investment Law
3. **Vianney Sebayiga:** Environmental protection under the Ugandan Model Bilateral Investment Treaty: A Call for reform
4. **Nicola Soekoe:** The human rights case for robust 'in accordance with domestic law' provisions in Africa's international investment law

CLOSING, PRIZE-GIVING AND GROUP PHOTO

Time: 15:30 - 16:00 SAST / 16:30 - 17:00 EAT