



**The American Society of International Law
International Economic Law Interest Group**

is pleased to announce its

**Biennial Conference on International Economic Law
May 16-17, 2025**

to be held at

**University of Michigan Law School
Ann Arbor, Michigan**

Call for Papers

The conference will include:

- Academic paper presentations drawn from an open call for papers
- Invited papers and keynote speakers
- Roundtable conversations with practitioners, academics, and government officials

I. Concept and Theme: “New Tools Instead of Old Rules? The Changing Instruments of International Economic Law”

International economic law is undergoing drastic changes. The traditional rules-based system is under pressure from rising populism, protectionism, and geopolitical tensions. War, the climate crisis, persistent inequalities, and other policy challenges have added further stress to the system. Partly as a response, the modes of governance that dominate international economic law are in the process of changing. As US national security advisor Jake Sullivan provocatively put it, “[f]or the problems we are trying to solve today, the traditional model doesn’t cut it.” Unilateral measures – from carbon border taxes and forced labor bans, to export controls and investment screening mechanisms – are proliferating. Bilateral arrangements are softening, as free trade agreements and investment protection treaties subject to binding third party dispute settlement fall out of fashion, and states turn to cooperative initiatives like the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework or the EU-US Trade and Technology Council. Meanwhile, multilateralism is being reinvented, with WTO negotiations focusing as much on sustainability as on trade and other international efforts, including taxation, environmental protection, and traditional knowledge – all of which have expanded the contours of international economic law.

This conference will focus on the shifting modes of international governance in international economic law, and will ask: are we seeing a change from traditional, often enforceable rules, to new, often less formal tools in international economic law?



Research topics may include:

- Unilateral measures in international economic law;
- Innovations in free trade agreements, including in relation to labor, Indigenous peoples, and the environment;
- New developments in digital trade (agreements);
- Investment facilitation agreements and political risk insurance;
- New approaches to investment protection agreements and enforcement;
- Changes in global tax governance, including relating to the global minimum tax;
- Developments in intellectual property rights, including the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge;
- Climate and trade or investment-related finance.

II. Paper and Panel Proposal Submission

The deadline for both paper and panel proposal submissions is **October 15, 2024**. Submissions should be sent to ieligbiennial2025@gmail.com, where they will be peer reviewed. Decisions will be issued by **mid-November**.

Papers: Please submit an abstract of no more than 350 words and confirm that the paper will not be published before the conference. Please also provide a resume or short biography and your current institutional affiliation, and indicate whether you are a member of the ASIL International Economic Law Interest Group. Non-members are welcome to apply. If selected to present at the conference, a full draft of your paper will be due by **April 25, 2025** for dissemination to other panelists, moderators, and conference participants in advance of the event.

Panels: Please submit a proposal, in no more than 1000 words, which describes the approach, anticipated content, and format of the panel, and which lists proposed speakers with their affiliation and their field(s) of expertise. Please note that panel proposals may be combined or amended by the conference organizers to take into account the range of submissions.

III. Conference Details

The conference will take place at the University of Michigan Law School on **May 16-17, 2025**. For ASIL members, the registration fee will be \$100. For nonmembers, the fee will be \$140. Discounted rates will be available for students. Participants are expected to attend in person and fund their own travel. We look forward to seeing you in Michigan next spring!

Julian Arato
University of Michigan Law School

Joanna Langille and Julianne Marley
Co-Chairs, ASIL International Economic
Law Interest Group

Wolfgang Alschner and Guillermo
Garcia Sanchez
Co-Vice Chairs, ASIL International
Economic Law Interest Group