

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS:
THE FRAGMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW**

**Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic
May 28th – 29th, 2010**

Conference Organisers:



elsa

The European Law Students' Association

Conference Sponsor:



**International Conference Sponsorship Proposal
Special Invitation to Sponsor a Speaker
COLADIC-RD**

I. About The Conference

EMC² WTO Conference on "Regional Trade Agreements: The Fragmentation of International Trade Law"

ELSA and COLADIC-RD will proudly offer a capacity building event by way of a Conference on WTO Law and broader International Trade Law issues. This Conference will be held in addition to the Final Oral Round of the EMC² (the FOR) in 2010, which will also take place in Santo Domingo. The Conference will be one of the largest regional international trade law events in Latin America and the Caribbean, if not the entire Western Hemisphere, in 2010. It is aimed at a very broad audience that of trade officials (capital and mission based ones), academia and practicing lawyers, as well as law and international relations students.

The Conference topic is "*Regional Trade Agreements: The Fragmentation of International Trade Law*". Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) are an exception to most-favoured-nation (MFN) treatment for trade in goods (under GATT Article XXIV) and services (under GATS Article V). The "Enabling Clause", which permits special and differential treatment in favour of and among developing countries, also permits RTAs. The term RTA includes free trade agreements, customs unions and partial trade agreements. Countries do not need to be in the same region to sign a RTA, but can be on opposite ends of the planet. It is expected that close to 400 RTAs will be implemented by 2010. The goal of this conference is to analyze several legal questions raised by a new generation of RTAs.

RTAs raise many concerns for the multilateral trading system. They create a complex web of overlapping trade rules that are difficult and costly for companies to navigate. They can divert trade from more efficient to less efficient producers, which can then stimulate investment based on the temporary advantages created by RTAs. They can create resistance to global trade liberalization, since less efficient producers are likely to be displaced in important markets if they lose the preferential treatment they enjoy under RTAs, reducing or even eliminating the viability of the RTA-induced investments. RTA dispute settlement systems can overlap with that of the WTO, increasing the cost of disputes and raising complex issues regarding the choice of dispute settlement forum. During the Conference we will seek to explore: to what extent do RTAs undermine the global trading system?

Potential Speakers for the Conference

Mr. Ricardo Ramirez, WTO Appellate Body Member (Joint Key note speaker)

Prof. Peter Van Den Bossche, WTO Appellate Body Member (Joint Key note speaker)

Ms. Maria Pereyra, Legal Affairs Division of the WTO Secretariat

Representatives of the Legal Affairs Division, Committee on Regional Trade Agreements and Intellectual Property Division of the WTO Secretariat and WTO Appellate Body Secretariat

Ms Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Caribbean Integration and Trade Sector at the Inter-American Development Bank

Prof. Bryan Mercurio, Chinese University Hong Kong

Prof. Bradly Condon, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)

Prof. Chin Leng Lim, Singapore Management University

Dr. Laura Nielsen, University of Copenhagen

Mrs Letizia Raschella-Sergi, Institute for International Trade – University of Adelaide

Ms. Edna Ramírez, Inter-American Development Bank

II. About the Organizers of the Conference

Consejo Latinoamericano de Estudiosos de Derecho Internacional y Comparado. Capítulo República Dominicana - COLADIC-RD

The Latin-American Council of Scholars on International and Comparative Law (COLADIC is the Spanish acronym) is a non-governmental and non-profit association founded by a group of intelligent and progressive law students with the purpose of spreading knowledge and passion for International and Comparative Law, together with lawyers and law students from all around Latin America. COLADIC was started in Mexico City in 1994 as an academic and multinational organization dedicated to the promotion of the study of International and Comparative Law by means of different activities and projects on a national and international level. The Dominican Republic joined COLADIC almost a decade ago, in year 2000, and since then, the Dominican Republic Chapter of COLADIC (COLADIC-RD) has been working continuously and arduously, as one of the eleven Chapters conforming COLADIC¹.

Currently, COLADIC-RD seeks to accomplish this mission by promoting and facilitating the development of law students and professionals, as well as intellectuals in other areas and people, interested in the area of International and Comparative Law. COLADIC is an academic association, so its main activities are focused on developing basic and specialized knowledge of International and Comparative Law, and tools to develop the necessary knowledge. In the case of COLADIC-RD, they frequently organize seminars, discussion boards, debates, conferences and discussion get-togethers, as well as other related activities and projects. Likewise, COLADIC-RD produces periodical publications with the intellectual contribution of its members and has compiled an International Law database accessible to the public through its webpage consisting of interesting and up to date information regarding the development and current situation of different areas of interest.

Some of COLADIC's most important and well-known activities in Latin America are the Annual International Congress, which is celebrated in a different country every year focusing on a common subject of interest, and the International Moot Court Competitions that are annually organized by different Chapters of COLADIC, and which are thoroughly and largely promoted in the Dominican Republic by COLADIC-RD in order to ensure the participation of Dominican teams which are encouraged to use the opportunity to interact with participants from other countries who share the same interests. In that regard, COLADIC-RD successfully held the Latin-American Regional Rounds (LARR) of the ELSA Moot Court Competition on WTO Law (EMC²) in the years 2005 and 2008, with results that surpassed every expectation and was generally recognized by those related to the Competition, to the point that COLADIC-RD was asked by the Competition's international organizers – ELSA – to be the host for the international Final Oral Round in 2010. COLADIC-RD has willingly and proudly accepted this role.

The European Law Students' Association – ELSA

The European Law Students' Association (ELSA) is an international, independent, non-political, non-profit-making organisation run by and for law students. It is comprised of students and recent graduates who are interested in academic and personal excellence in addition to their studies at their universities. ELSA is the world's largest independent law students association and it is represented in

¹ COLADIC is presently working in 11 different countries through its various Chapters: Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela. More information about COLADIC-RD may be found at www.coladic-rd.org

nearly 200 law faculties in 40 countries across Europe with membership in excess of 30 000 students and young lawyers.² Furthermore, ELSA co-operates with other student organisations across the world, for instance ILSA in North America, ALSA in Japan, ALSA in Australia, ALSA in South Africa and AEJCI in Ivory Coast.

ELSA activities comprise a large variety of academic and professional events that are organised to fulfil the vision of ELSA – “A just world in which there is respect for human dignity and cultural diversity”. The latter is attained through achieving the main purpose of ELSA – “To contribute to legal education, to foster mutual understanding and to promote social responsibility of law students and young lawyers.” ELSA members do their volunteer work in order to provide the law students with opportunities to enhance their personal and professional skills, obtain experience of working in an international environment and to network. In this respect ELSA maintains wide institutional relations and sends its delegations of legal professionals and students to several UN bodies (UNESCO, ECOSOC, UNCITRAL, UNHCR), the Council of Europe and WIPO. Further, ELSA coordinates the most prestigious legal education events in Europe, from essay competitions, international conferences and seminars, publications such as “Selected Papers on European Law”, to the moot court competitions, including, but not limited to the ELSA Moot Court Competition on WTO Law (EMC²). Finally, ELSA provides its members and law students in general opportunities to develop their professional skills and gain experience through the student trainee exchange programme – STEP.

III. Sponsorship of an International Trade Expert to Participate at the Conference

Through this Special Sponsorship Proposal various entities (universities, institutes, research centers, institutions and organisations) are invited to sponsor their International Trade expert in order to participate as Speaker for the Conference. The list of International Trade Law experts who are the potential and, later, appointed as Conference’s Speakers will be provided to the Sponsor along with the financial information (costs of flight and accommodation³) of such expert attending this major event. A Sponsor can suggest an International Trade expert outside the above indicated list. The said International Trade expert can be invited to present a speech at the Conference or to serve as an EMC² Panellist. In the latter case, however, such candidate to the EMC² Final Oral Round Panellists’ Pool will have to undergo selection procedure as per the EMC² Panellists Policy 2009-2010 (to be provided by the Academic Supervisors of the EMC²).

Under this special offer, regardless of the total amount contributed, when sponsoring a speaker for the Conference the “Speaker Supporter” will receive most of the benefits of the Silver Sponsor and special benefits (as opposed to the regular “Supporter”) listed under the “Speaker Supporter” column.

² ELSA currently has Members and Observers in: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and The United Kingdom. More information about ELSA may be found at www.elsa.org

³ The EMC² Final Oral Round Conference Speakers receive no remuneration for their work. They dedicate their time and expertise to the Conference on voluntary basis.

Description of the Benefits offered to the "Speaker Supporter"

Benefits and Levels of Cooperation	Accurate Content	Sponsor Platinum	Sponsor Gold	Sponsor Silver	Supporter	Speaker Supporter
Amount in Euros (EUR)	Contribution in-cash/kind	5 750	4 750	3 750	750	-
CONFERENCE						
Promotional Materials	Logo	✓				
	Logo and info survey	✓				
E-Protocol Promo	Logo included in Periodic Mass- email promotion among the COLADIC mailing list subscribers	✓				
Printed Materials	Logo within the Academic Program	✓				
	Logo on the CD Cover	✓				
Conference Banner ⁴	Logo	✓				
Conference information, posters etc.	Logo	✓	✓			
Conference Programme	Logo and one page advertisement	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Promotional materials at the reception desk	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Promotional materials distributed with program	✓				
Participation EMC ² Teams Handbook	Logo and one Page advertisement	✓	✓	✓		✓
Advertisement Stand	Advertise its company and sell its products (magazines or books) ⁵	✓	✓			
OVERALL (Conference and EMC²)						
All Official communication related to EMC²	Name displayed	✓	✓	✓		
Final Report EMC²	Logo Displayed and short info survey	✓	✓			
Final Report COLADIC International	Logo Displayed and Short Info Survey	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COLADIC-RD Website and the FOR Conference Official Website	Logo and Short info Survey under Sponsors Section	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Logo and Short Info Survey under COLADIC-RD Collaborators	✓	✓			✓
	Hyperlink under 'Links' section	✓	✓			✓
COLADIC-RD Official Monthly Bulletin	Logo and Named Displayed	✓	✓	✓		✓

Note: Based on the specific amount of the contribution⁶, the sponsor will be eligible for one of the categories indicated in the table above.

⁴ The size of the Logo will depend exclusively on the amount of the contribution.

⁵ Costs related to attending the events by the Sponsor's Delegates are not covered by COLADIC-RD or ELSA.

⁶ The benefits indicated in the categories presented in the above table are to be negotiated individually with a potential contributor.

IV. Budget and Estimates for the realization of the Conference

Exchange rate US\$1.00 - RD\$36.25, estimates include relevant taxes

Expense Category	Comments	Amount in RD\$	Amount in USD\$
Conference Facility		75,000.00	2,083.00
Lodging of Speakers	20 persons (3 days, 2 nights - 28 th Friday to 30 th Sunday, May 2010)	1,027,600.50	28,347.60
Food & Beverages	Conference Welcome Cocktail and Coffee Breaks, as well as Speakers' Meals	210,297.5	5,841.62
Marketing Materials, Publicity, Promotion and Souvenirs		80,000.00	2,222.00
Conference Materials and Publication	Off-set and laser printing, and editing costs (CD, online publication)	75,500.00	2,097.00
Transportation- Speakers (S)	Air-fare and hotel transfer		
	Ss 1-4 from Geneva	217,200.00	6,000.00
	S5 from Singapore	86,800.00	2,400.00
	S6 from Denmark	48,600.00	1,350.00
	S7 from Brussels	47,060.00	1,300.00
	S8 from Amsterdam	50,680.00	1,400.00
	S9 from Taiwan	76,020.00	2,100.00
	S10-11 from Australia (TBS)	159,280.00	4,400.00
	S11 from Hong Kong	83,260.00	2,300.00
	S12-13 from Barbados	31,494.00	870.00
	S14 from Washington D.C.	21,720.00	600.00
	S 15-16 from Mexico City	42,716.00	1,180.00
	S17 from Buenos Aires	54,300.00	1,500.00
	S18 from Santiago de Chile	52,490.00	1,450.00
	S19 from UK (London)	28,960.00	800.00
	S 20 from Warsaw	68,884.00	1,820.00
	Interim Expenses	4,439,408.72	122,635.6
	Currency exchange & emergency contingency (9 %)		11,037.25
	Total Expenses		133,672.85
Income Category			
Participation Fee			22,750.00
Sponsorship			100,000.00
COLADIC-RD Contribution			11,037.25

V. Technical Information

Material required for general logo promotion (High Quality): JPG, TIFF, EPS (or other vector based). All logos are to be provided in full colour as well as in skeleton (black and white) format.

Material transfer will take place by e-mail: conference@coladic-rd.org