
The Re-Globe Jean Monnet Module

presents

A Re-Globe Event

Friday 7 February 2025, 13:00-15:00, [online](#) meeting

The New Strategy for Economic Security of the EU Trade Policy

First Steps and Implications in International Law

Introductory Remarks

Prof. Elisa Baroncini, University of Bologna, Re-Globe Coordinator

“Balancing Power: EU Economic Security and International Trade”

Lukas Schaupp, Researcher, Department of Law, European University Institute

“How Should Lawyers Engage with the EU’s Securitisation of the Economy?”

Miguel Mota Delgado, Researcher, Department of Law, European University Institute

“Economic Security Meets Sustainable Trade: Mapping Opportunities and Challenges Ahead”

Isola Clara Macchia, Researcher, Department of Law, European University Institute

Discussant

Areg Navasartian, Full-time Assistant, Université libre de Bruxelles

The seminar is organized within the activities of the Re-Globe Jean Monnet Module, co-funded by the European Union

This event has also the support of the EUI International Economic Law and Policy Working Group and the SIDI Group of Interest in International Economic Law (DIEcon)

For more information on the event please contact niccolo.lanzoni2@unibo.it



Abstracts and Short Bio of the Speakers

Balancing Power: EU Economic Security and International Trade: Economic security has become a key component of the evolving EU security paradigm. At its core, however, the EU's economic security strategy primarily consolidates a wide range of policy proposals, both implemented and yet to be implemented, that share a security dimension of some sort. Following the pillar structure of the economic strategy itself, I make a distinction between the internal and external dimension of EU economic security, based on different legal competences relied upon. This division highlights a key difference between the two dimensions: while the domestic industrial dimension relies on historically weaker legal foundations, the trade policy dimension is rooted in long-established EU powers. This blend of traditional supranational trade competence paired with new legislative instruments reveals a certain imbalance within the economic security strategy. It paints a picture of the EU, which is heavily armed in terms of trade instruments, while only coming to grips with defining and implementing a proper industrial strategy much slower. This prompts the question of how this imbalance of the EU's economic security strategy may impact the broader framework of international trade governance.

Lukas Schaupp is a doctoral researcher at the Law Department of the European University Institute, where he currently serves as coordinator for the International Economic Law and Policy Working Group. He holds an LL.M. in European Law from the University of Edinburgh and has a background in European Studies. Lukas' research interests include EU external economic relations law, international economic law, as well as broader inquiries into Europe's role in the world.

How Should Lawyers Engage with the EU's Securitisation of the Economy?: Since the second half of the 2010s, economic security is consolidating as a new paradigm in EU governance. In turn, this development leads not only to policy but also legal innovation. Indeed, to flesh out its economic security agenda, the EU adopts new legal instruments and repurposes old ones. In this process, the EU generates a body of "EU economic security law", pervasive to almost every area of economic regulation. Which raises the question of how lawyers should engage with this new body of law? To answer this, there are multiple methodological avenues. This presentation explores one: a law in context approach anchored on securitisation theory. This theory examines how certain matters are socially constructed as security issues. Importantly, it aptly describes the process through which the EU is "securitising" the economy. This presentation contends that through this constructivist lens lawyers are better able to navigate the normative ambivalence of the EU's securitisation of the economy. Specifically, it argues that by deconstructing the securitisation of the economy as a discursive strategy of political enabling, legal operators are more aware of the Schmittian undertones driving this type of regulatory process. Securitisation cautions that what is being presented as economic security issues may or may not correspond to "real threats". Such critical engagement matters: after all, economic security is liable to clash with EU values, like the rule of law, pluralism and non-discrimination, some EU objectives, like free trade, and, ultimately, the EU's self-understanding as a global power. For this, this presentation argues that lawyers should question economic security. More tangibly, it calls for institutional oversight of what is presented as economic security issues, namely from the part of the EU judiciary.

Miguel Mota Delgado is a Ph.D. Researcher at the European University Institute (Florence, Italy) and Professor of European Law at Católica Global School of Law (Lisbon, Portugal). He holds LL.M. degrees from the EUI (Comparative, European, and International Laws) and the College of Europe (European Law), as well as a Licenciatura in Law from the Universidade de Lisboa. He is Managing Editor of the European Journal of Legal Studies and has coordinated the EU Law Working Group at the EUI. Miguel has taught at the EUI and Universidade de Lisboa, was a Visiting Scholar at the European Parliament, and a Visiting Researcher at Université Libre de Bruxelles. He is also an Assistant Integrated Researcher at the Lisbon Public Law Research Centre and is admitted to the practice of law in Portugal since 2021.



Economic Security Meets Sustainable Trade: Mapping Opportunities and Challenges Ahead: In recent years, economic security has become one of the goals for EU trade policy. This shift has been made even more evident by the 2024-2029 Commission, nominating a new Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security. This increasing interconnection poses some questions and challenges for trade policy going forward. In particular, how sustainable development objectives will be balanced with economic security interests, specifically in Free Trade Agreements. As recent policy developments show a tendency for more sectoral agreements, focused on securing strategic deals for the EU, this presentation will address how these partnerships can ensure the respect of Articles 3(3), 3(5) and 21 TEU, while pushing forward the economic security agenda. The presentation will propose as initial case study some Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements recently concluded by the EU. As we await the new Commission's work plan in mid-February 2025, the picture painted is one of highly politicisation and need for the EU to strategically negotiate.

Isola Clara Macchia is a doctoral researcher in international trade law at the European University Institute. She holds a MSc in European and International Public Policy from the London School of Economics, and a Law Degree from the University of Bologna. She was a visiting scholar at the University of Michigan Law School, and she coordinated the EUI International Economic Law and Policy Working Group. Isola research focuses on the intersection of international law, trade law, enforcement theories, and political economy.

Prof Elisa Baroncini, cum laude Law Degree and PhD in EU Law, is Full Professor of International Law at the University of Bologna, where she currently teaches International Economic Law, International Law on Sustainable Development, and International Energy Law. After having served for ten years (2012-2022) as Co-Chair of the ESIL IG on International Economic Law, in 2019 Elisa co-founded and is currently Coordinator of the Interest Group on International Economic Law of the Italian Society of International Law (DIEcon); and in December 2023, she has been elected as Member of the Executive Council of the Society of International Economic Law (SIEL). She has been Visiting Professor at the China-EU School of Law, speaker and organizer of many international conferences, Visiting Researcher at the European University Institute. Elisa coordinates and participates in international and national research projects. She has been awarded the Jean Monnet Module "Re-Globe-Reforming the Global Economic Governance: The EU for SDGs in International Economic Law" (2022-2025), the Jean Monnet Chair "SustainEU-orPlanet- The EU as a Global Actor in the International Law for the Sustainable Development of the Planet – Advancing Fairness, Expanding Accountability and Promoting Security" (2025-2028), and the research fund by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the project "L'Organizzazione mondiale del commercio quale protagonista dello sviluppo sostenibile nel rilancio del sistema multilaterale". Elisa has recently been the Coordinator of two UNA Europa Seeds Research Projects: "WHC@50- Forever Young: Celebrating 50 Years of the World Heritage Convention"; and "ImprovEUorGlobe- The UN 2030 Agenda in the EU Trade Policy: Improving Global Governance for a Sustainable New World". Member of the Scientific Committee of the "Centro Interuniversitario sul Diritto delle Organizzazioni Internazionali Economiche" (CIDOIE), Elisa has also been part of the Promoting Committee of the University of Bologna to honour the 1972 UNESCO Convention, and Member of the Scientific Committee of the Institute of Advances Studies (ISA) of the University of Bologna. In June 2022 she has been appointed by the European Commission TSD Expert for the dispute settlement mechanisms of the new generation of EU free trade agreements. In May 2023, Elisa Baroncini has been appointed Independent Non-executive Director of the Board of Eni S.p.A. She is also Member of the Editorial Board of "The Journal of World Investment & Trade" and the Editorial Board- Section of Bologna of "Diritto del commercio internazionale". Elisa publishes extensively mainly in English and Italian, and her main fields of research include: the reform process of the WTO dispute settlement mechanism; the relation between free trade and non-trade values; transparency and civil society in international economic law; the new generation of EU FTAs and their enforcement; the participation of the European Parliament and the Commission in the EU treaty-making power; the relation between free trade and investment protection and cultural heritage protection; EU and international energy law.

Areg Navasartian is a lecturer and PhD candidate at the Faculty of Law of the Université libre de Bruxelles (Brussels, Belgium). She teaches Law of the European Union, comparative law and legal research methodology. Her PhD research, carried out under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Chloé Brière, relates to the constitutional and normative framework of the EU's human rights obligations in its external action.

