



## Professor Csongor István Nagy

## **International Trade**

## Session 6

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Welcome to the course on International Trade.

The sixth session of the course provides an introduction into three important issues of WTO law: special treatment for less developed members, general exceptions and the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), dumping, subsidies and countervailing duties.

WTO law also contains an agreement on the technical barriers to trade (The Technical Barriers to Trade or TBT Agreement). This aims to ensure that technical standards and regulations are not discriminatory and are not unreasonable, that is, they do not erect unnecessary obstacles against trade.

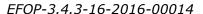
The TBT Agreement recognizes WTO members' right to regulate. The use of international standards is highly recommended, as they may facilitate trade.

<u>Please watch</u> the short e-learning video prepared by the WTO e-Campus on the special treatment for less developed members. This is part of the WTO e-learning courses prepared for government officials from developing members and observers and is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u MeVuEGpPY

<u>Please watch</u> the short e-learning video prepared by the WTO e-Campus on WTO law's general exceptions. It is available at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=700jjajYcnk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=700jjajYcnk</a>

<u>Please read</u> Csongor István Nagy, Clash of Trade and National Public Interest in WTO Law: The Illusion of 'Weighing and Balancing' and the Theory of Reservation, 23(1) Journal of International Economic Law 143-163 (2020). It is available at









https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=3572398

This paper presents the WTO case-law on the general exceptions. When applying the general exceptions, the WTO Dispute Settlement Body needs to compare the trade-restriction caused by the state measure to the public interest benefits it generates. The paper showcases how difficult it is to make this comparison and apply the general exceptions in an objective and balanced manner.

<u>Please watch</u> the short e-learning video prepared by the WTO e-Campus on the SPS Agreement. It is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7o0jjajYcnk

<u>Please watch</u> my video about dumping (antidumping duties), subsidies and countervailing duties under WTO law.

At the end of the session, please answer the following questions:

- What special treatment do developing countries receive in the WTO?
- What are the general exceptions in WTO law?
- What is the TBT Agreement?
- What is the SPS Agreement?

