

PROGRAMME

Early career workshop: EU external relations law: reviving multilateralism - what role for the EU?

Day 1 – Thursday, 4 December 2025 (CLOSED EVENT at TMC Asser Institute)

12:00 – 13:15 Lunch

13:15 – 13:30 Introduction by the organizers

13:30 – 14:30 Keynote: Colin Brown (EU Commission) and Q&A Session

14:30 – 15:15 **A. Lymperopoylos (PhD Candidate EUI)** - *Legitimizing unilateralism the EU way*

Commentators: G. Vidigal (UvA) and E. Okakin Erbas (Istanbul Gedik University)

15:15 – 16:00 **J. Bowley (PhD Candidate University of Groningen)** - *Risks and Relevance: Assessing the Alignment of the EU's Enforcement of International Trade Rules with EU Treaty Objectives*

Commentators: O. Kanevskaia (Utrecht University) and A. Lejeune (PhD Candidate EUI)

16:00 – 16:15 Coffee/Tea break

16:15 – 17:00 **M. Bracke (PhD Candidate Ghent University)** - *Interregionalism as a realistic pathway towards multilateralism*

Commentators: J. Larik (Leiden University) and K. Mwananshiku (PhD Candidate University of Portsmouth)

17:00 -18:15 **R. Silvestre (Università degli Studi della Campania)** - *The cooperation between the European Union (EU) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) in the social rebalancing of the multilateral trade system*

Commentators: Prof. A. Arcuri (Erasmus University Rotterdam) and K. Szepelek (Krakow University of Economics)

18:45 – 21:00 Dinner

Day 2 - Friday, 5 December 2025 (CLOSED EVENT at TMC Asser Institute)

10:15 – 10:45 Walk-In Coffee

10:45 – 11:30 **A. Lejeune (PhD Candidate EUI)** - *Committees in EU bilateral trade agreements and in the WTO: substitutes, complements or false analogies?*

Commentators: O. Kanevskaia (Utrecht University) and J. Bowley (PhD Candidate University of Groningen)

11:30 – 12:15 **F. Velli (Université de Rennes)** - *"Team Europe": a new paradigm for the EU's engagement with third parties?*

Commentators: T. Verellen (Utrecht University) and A. Lymperopoylos (PhD Candidate EUI)

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 14:15 **K. Mwananshiku (PhD Candidate University of Portsmouth)** - *From Bilateralism to Multilateralism? The Legal Potential of the EU African Union Partnership in Trade*

Commentators: G. Kubek (University of Groningen) and M. Bracke (PhD Candidate Ghent University)

14:15 -15:00 **K. Szepelek (Krakow University of Economics)** - *Beyond One-Size-Fits-All: EU Trade Agreements, Human Rights, and Labour Standards*

Commentators: E. Kassoti (T.M.C. Asser Institute) and M. Mohiqi (University of Agder)

15:00 -15:30 Coffee/Tea break

15:30 -16:15 **M. Mohiqi (University of Agder)** - *The EU's Role in Embedding Fundamental Rights into Global AI and Digital Trade Standards*

Commentators: K. Irion (UvA) and R. Silvestre (Università degli Studi della Campania)

16:15 -16:30 **E. Okakin Erbas (Istanbul Gedik University)** - *A Taxonomy of EU Agencies' Extraterritorial Practices: Unpacking the Rise of Quiet Unilateralism*

Commentators: F. Coman Kund (Erasmus University Rotterdam) and F. Velli (Université de Rennes)