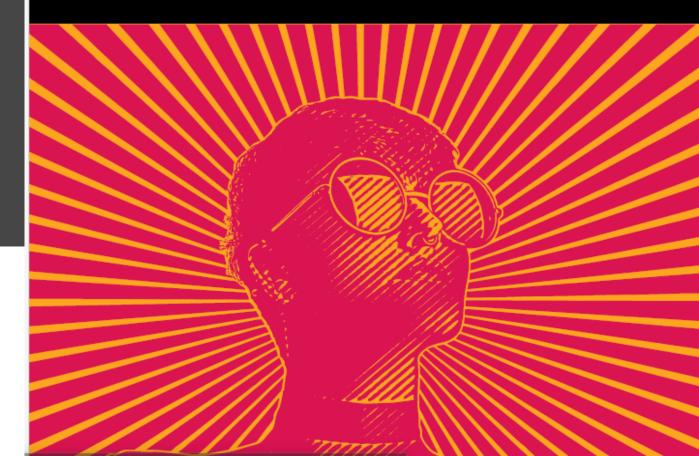
Book Talk

September 2023

Trade Policy and Gender Equality

Edited by Amrita Bahri, Dorotea López and Jan Yves Remy



are...

not gender neutral; distributional outcomes of FTAs can vary between women & men, as they play different roles in society, markets and economies, and enjoy different opportunities & resources access

Lowering barriers to trade (tariff and non tariff barriers) Risk of lower revenue for social welfare support for vulnerable groups of women

Increasing employment and business opportunities for women

Goods and

services at

lower prices

and better

quality for

consumers

Environmental and health impact from higher consumption and production

Risk of

displacement of job and business opportunities in some industries

Breaking barriers women face at, within & across borders Feminization
of labor,
leading to
more Jobs but
lower wages
and poor work
conditions

which should be addressed by...

Negotiating FTAs with a gender lens

Gender Mainstreaming

Inclusive Trade



FTAS

Why Use Trade Agreements to Empower Women?

Breaking Barriers

Breaking Barriers at borders, within borders and across borders:

Access to resources, labour standards, maternity needs protection, education and health, physical safety, breaking trade barriers, exploitation, discrimination, and others



Creating Opportunities

Creating new employment and business opportunities for women:

Jobs creation with higher salaries & better work conditions, new markets & clients, participation in value chains, market access expansion, e-commerce & flexible work opportunities, and others





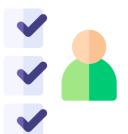
Why negotiating instruments work?





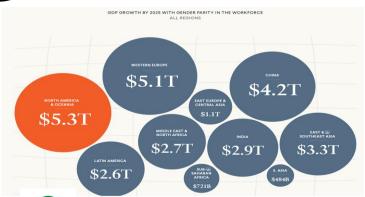
Ease of negotiating with certain countries (i.e., Canada)



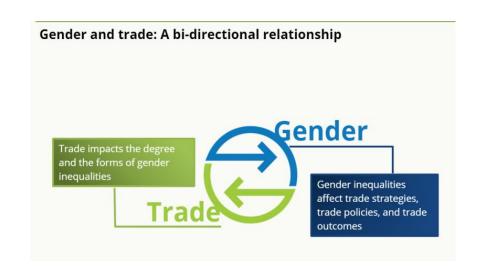


The inclusion of gender provisions is a precondition to negotiate with others (i.e., EU)

Substantive reasons



The Business Case: Gender Equality benefits the economy

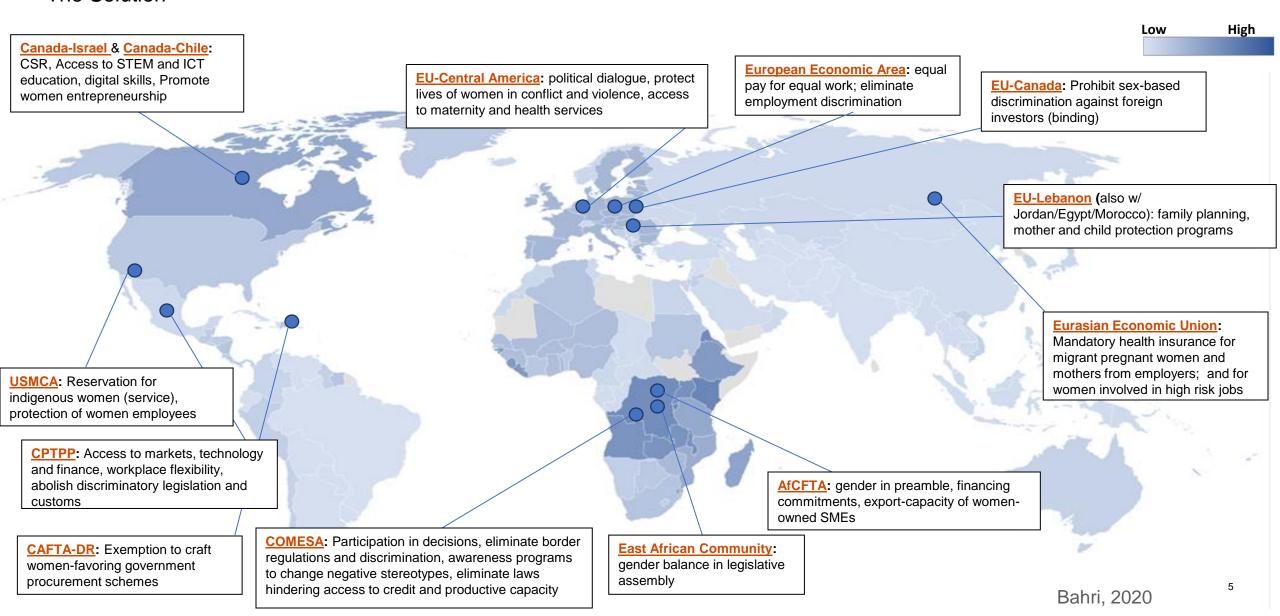




Trade Agreements can Help: Good Practice Examples



The Solution



Focus Areas

Canada, Israel

Labor, anti-discrimination, market & resource access, business, education, voluntary standards, research, awareness

USA. Mexico

Labour, anti-discrimination, protection of indigenous women, market access & resource access

Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Argentina

Childcare, labor, antidiscrimination, market access, development, business, STEM education, access to finance

European Union

Equality, non-discrimination, education, skill development, health, safety, maternal care, political dialogue, privacy, data protection

United Kingdom

Employment of pregnant women, gender-friendly transportation, maternity & paternity benefits, social security, equality

Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan

Maternity & health concerns including mandatory insurance for pregnant migrant workers

South Korea, Singapore, Vietnam, New Zealand

Safety & protection, childcare, maternity, labor, digital inclusion, child nutrition

East and South Africa

Representation, market access, education, awareness, business, regional development, cultural stereotypes, business training

North Africa and Middle East

Role in economic and social development, education, mother and child protection, family planning, childcare, equality

Australia

Education, skill development, market & resource access, women in business, access to digital trade, digital infrastructure & know how



Different approaches, but 4 common challenges...

1 Promises and More Promises



2 Implementation and Enforcement



3 Lack of Definition



4 Disconnect between barriers and solutions



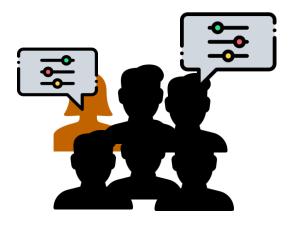
What impedes gender mainstreaming? The Hesitations and Impediments



1. Fears of Protectionism and cultural imperialism



4. Cost of compliance, and probability of compliance



2. Underrepresentation of women in policy-making roles



5. Absence of expertise and paucity of gender disaggregated data



3. Lack of political will



6. Lack of understanding and awareness



Thank you

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