

# Book Talk

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## Trade Policy and Gender Equality

Edited by Amrita Bahri, Dorotea López  
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Contributes to... but may lead to...

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

Environmental and health impact from higher consumption and production

Goods and services at lower prices and better quality for consumers

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**

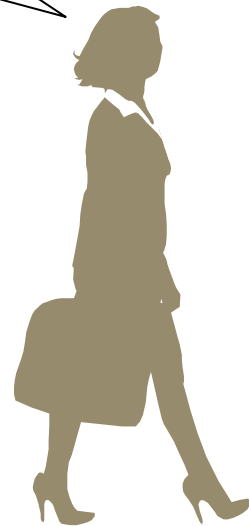
**Inclusive Trade**

# 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?

## 1 Diplomatic reasons

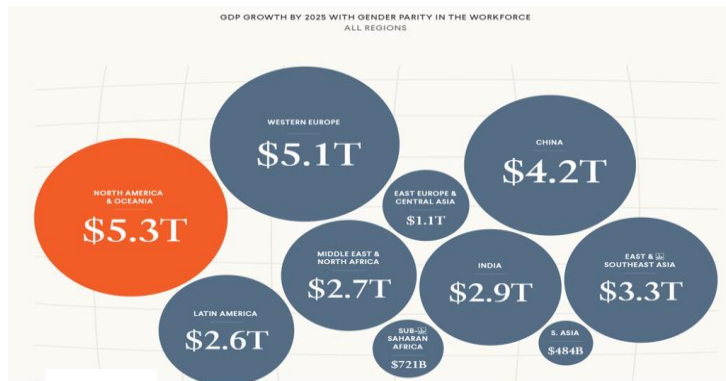


Ease of negotiating with certain countries (i.e., Canada)



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

## 2 Substantive reasons



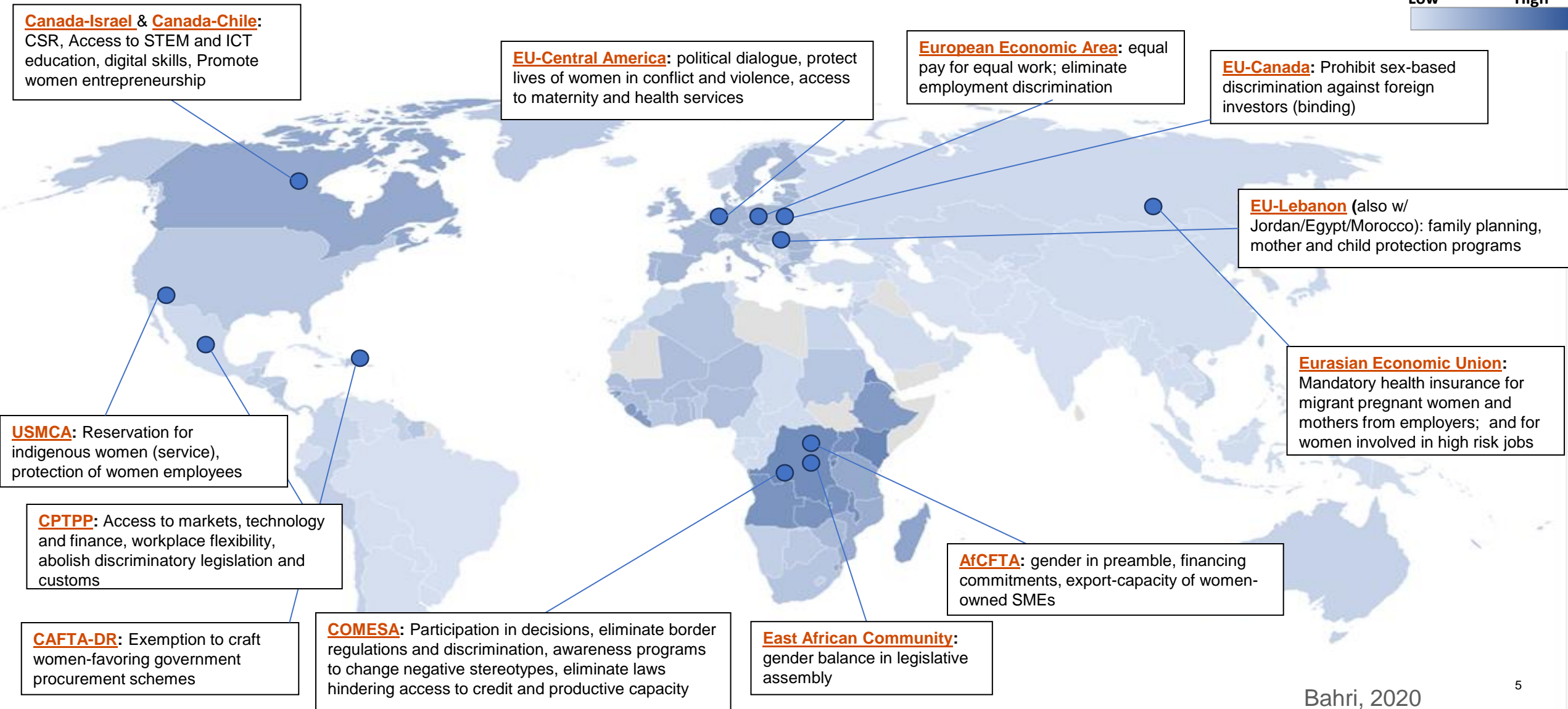
The Business Case: Gender Equality benefits the economy

### Gender and trade: A bi-directional relationship

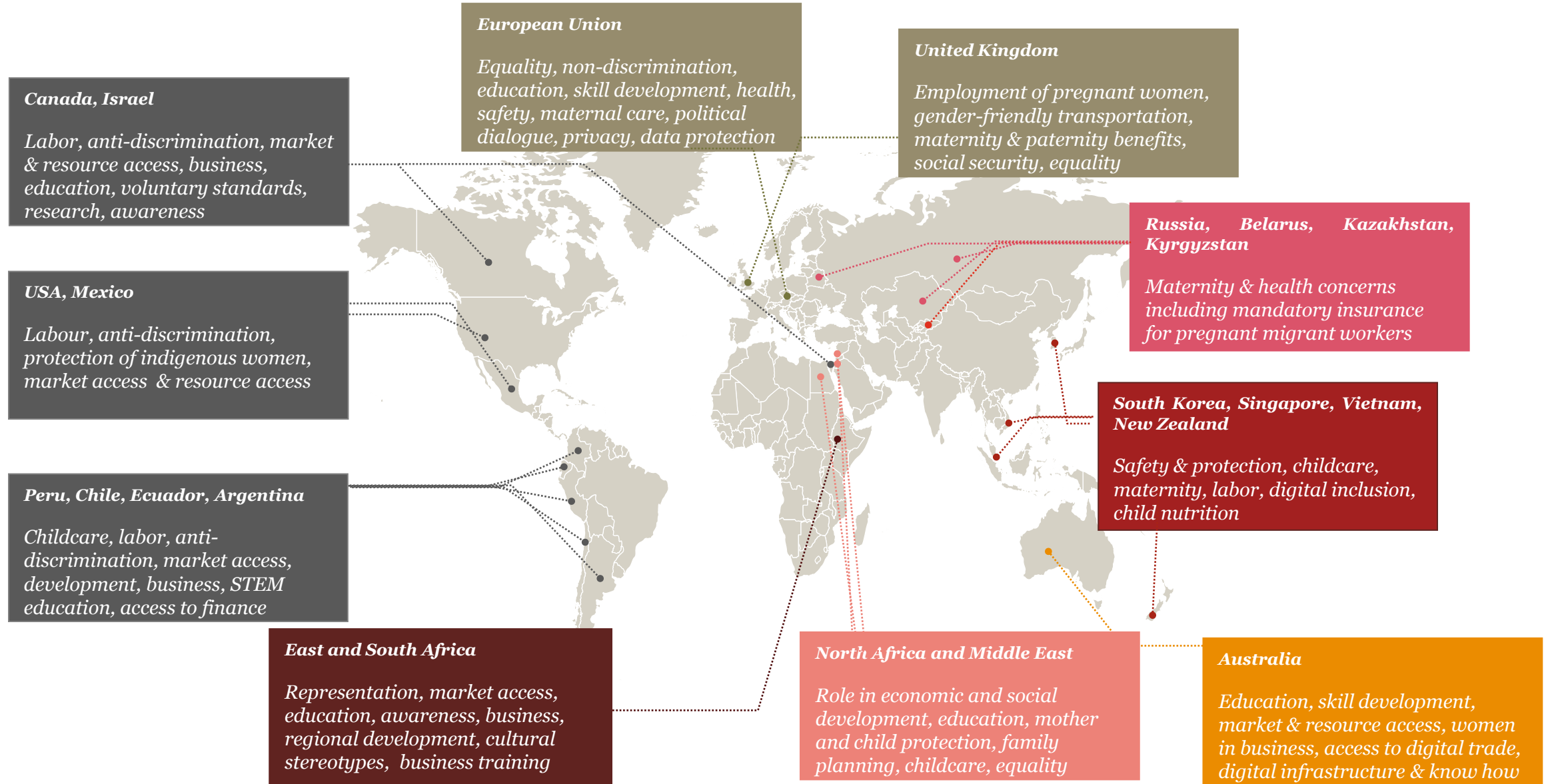


# Trade Agreements can Help: Good Practice Examples

## The Solution



# Focus Areas



# Different approaches, but 4 common challenges...

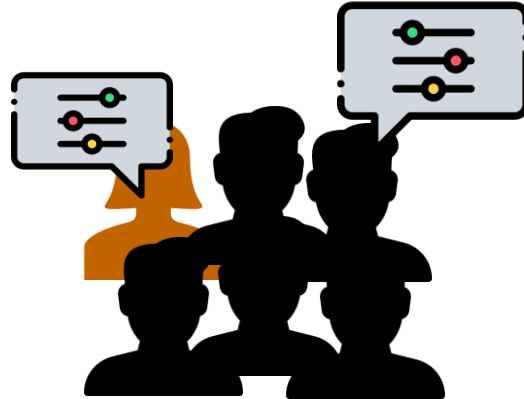
- 1 Promises and More Promises
- 2 Implementation and Enforcement
- 3 Lack of Definition
- 4 Disconnect between barriers and solutions



# What impedes gender mainstreaming? The Hesitations and Impediments



1. Fears of Protectionism and cultural imperialism



2. Underrepresentation of women in policy-making roles



3. Lack of political will



4. Cost of compliance, and probability of compliance



5. Absence of expertise and paucity of gender disaggregated data



6. Lack of understanding and awareness



Thank you

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