
Multiversity Lecture Explores Shift in International Economic Governance

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Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q) and the College of Law at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) have continued their collaborative lecture series, delving into the evolving landscape of international economic governance. Dr. Timothy Meyer, a distinguished figure in International Business Law at Duke University and Visiting Professor at HBKU College of Law, shed light on the recent trend of countries extending their taxation and regulation beyond their borders. This trend challenges the traditional notion of exclusive authority within national borders, particularly led by major economies such as the US and EU, targeting activities supporting consumption overseas, often based on environmental and labor standards.

Dr. Meyer emphasized the significance of this shift, highlighting its implications for both developed and developing nations. While developed countries aim to enforce standards abroad, developing nations perceive these regulations as unfair barriers to their economic development strategies. These regulations also limit their ability to compete in global markets, hindering their comparative advantage in certain sectors.

The lecture further explored the necessity for a new economic framework that balances global market participation with the needs of developing countries. Dr. Meyer suggested a reconceptualization of the roles of top international economic institutions to accommodate the changing dynamics effectively.

Dr. Emmanouil Chatzikonstantinou, Assistant Professor of International Economics at GU-Q, and Dr. Georgios Dimitropoulos, Associate Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at HBKU, engaged in discussions regarding mechanisms to address increased international economic conflict and the challenges faced by institutions like the World Trade Organization in adapting to this changing landscape. Dr. Chatzikonstantinou highlighted the impact of supply chain shocks on power dynamics, predicting a widening gap between the Global North and South.

The “Foundations of International Thought” lecture series, spearheaded by Dr. Edward Kolla and Dr. Dimitropoulos, serves as a platform for experts to provide multidisciplinary perspectives on

fundamental issues in international law and relations. It fosters cross-institutional teaching and student engagement, contributing to a deeper understanding of global dynamics among scholars and practitioners alike.

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