



TRADE, INVESTMENT &
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



The Henry E. & Consuelo S. Wenger Foundation

presents

REIMAGINING MULTILATERALISM FOR THE FUTURE



AGENDA

The Henry E. & Consuelo S. Wenger Foundation REIMAGINING MULTILATERALISM FOR THE FUTURE

April 15, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
American University Washington College of Law
Ceremonial Classroom (Room NT01)

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Registration & Light Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

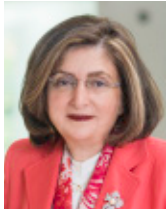
Welcoming Remarks

HEATHER HUGHES, Interim Dean, AUWCL

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

The Multilateral Trading System and its Future*

Moderator:



PADIDEH ALA'I, Director of the Trade, Investment, and Development Program, AUWCL

Panelists:



ANGELA PAOLINI ELLARD, Senior Advisor (nonresident) of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); former Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization; former Chief Trade Counsel House Ways & Means Committee



ROBERT KOOPMAN, Hurst Senior Professorial Lecturer at the American University School of International Service; former Chief Economist and Director of the Economic Research and Statistics Division at the World Trade Organization



MARIA PAGAN, former Deputy U.S. Trade Representative and Ambassador to the World Trade Organization; former Deputy General Counsel for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative



SANTIAGO WILLS, Director of Council and Trade Negotiations Committee Division of the World Trade Organization

**Off the record and closed to press*

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Coffee & Networking Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

U.S. Perspectives on Multilateralism*

Moderator:

ANGELA PAOLINI ELLARD, Senior Advisor (nonresident) of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS); former Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization; former Chief Trade Counsel House Ways & Means Committee

Panelists:



ISABELLE ICSO, Executive Director of International Policy with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce



MATTHEW NICELY, Partner at Akin Gump LLP and Adjunct Professor of Law, AUWCL



MAYUR PATEL, Partner at Hogan Lovells; former Chief International Trade Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance



ALEXANDRA WHITTAKER, Chief Trade Counsel and Staff Director of the U.S. House of Representatives Ways & Means Trade Subcommittee

**Off the record and closed to press*

12:30 – 1:50 p.m.

Luncheon Keynote: Securing Our Future with Human Compatible Artificial Intelligence

Speaker:



MARK NITZBERG, Executive Director of the Center on Human Compatible AI at U.C. Berkley and Executive Director of the International Association for Safe & Ethical AI

2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Global Trade Landscape

Moderator:

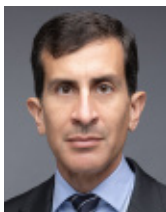


MATT LAPIN, Of Counsel at Wiley Rein LLP

Panelists:



FILIBERTO BROZZETTI, Of Counsel at Baker McKenzie Italy and Assistant Professor of AI, Law and Ethics at LUISS Guido Carli University of Rome



DANIEL CASTRO, Vice President of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation



GEOFFREY GERTZ, Senior Fellow with the Energy, Economics & Security Program at the Center for a New American Security



JOE WHITLOCK, Executive Director of the Global Data Alliance

3:15 – 3:30 p.m.

Coffee & Networking Break

3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Battle for Critical Minerals: Multilateral vs. Plurilateral

Moderator:



SARAH STEWART, CEO of Silverado Policy Accelerator

Panelists:



SAHAR HAFEEZ, Senior Counsel and Co-Lead of Minerals, Metals, and Materials Practice at Pillsbury Winthrop LLP



GRETA PEISCH, Partner at Wiley Rein LLP



REBECCA ROSEN, Vice President for Government Affairs at MP Materials



JENNA SCHROEDER, Director of US Government Relations at Rio Tinto

4:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Conference Closing Remarks



PADIDEH ALA'I, Director of the Trade, Investment, and Development Program at AUWCL



2026 ANNUAL WENGER ENDOWED LECTURE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW

APRIL 15, 2026 | 5:15 - 6:30 p.m.

Ceremonial Classroom (Room NT01) - *Reception to follow*



DR. NGOZI OKONJO-IWEALA

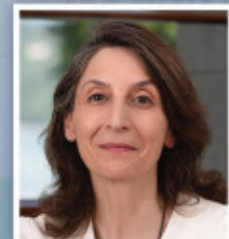
Director-General of the World Trade Organization



Opening remarks by:
JONATHAN R. ALGER
President, AU



Introductory remarks by:
PADIDEH ALA'I
Director of the Trade, Investment,
and Development Program, AUWCL



Moderated by:
ANGELA PAOLINI ELLARD
Center for Strategic and
International Studies (CSIS)

SCAN HERE
to learn about the
moderators and panelists



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