CALL FOR PAPERS

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

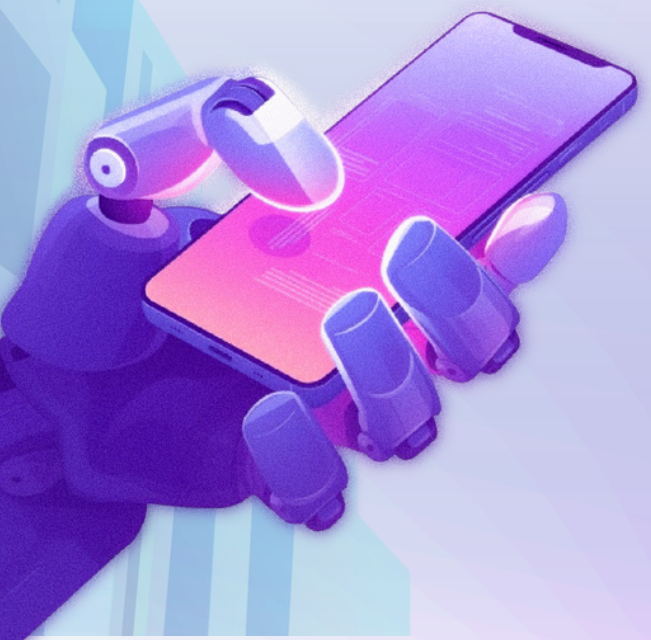
The Inaugural International Conference
on Economic Law, Trade and Global Governance in Emerging Economic Orders
(ELTG Conference)

INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INVESTMENT, AND FINANCIAL LAW IN THE AGE OF GLOBAL DIGITALIZATION: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES FROM DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Conference Format:
Hybrid

Date:
10-11/12/2026

Venue:
Hanoi (Vietnam)





The **Faculty of Law, Foreign Trade University (FTU)**, in collaboration with the **Manchester Journal of International Economic Law (MJIEL) (SCOPUS Q3), ESCI), Chester Law School** and **Law School, University of East Anglia** invites submissions for an international academic conference to be held in mid-December 2026 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The conference will be held primarily in person, with limited hybrid participation subject to logistical arrangements. Presenters are strongly encouraged to attend on site.

Conference Theme

International Trade, Investment, and Financial Law in the Age of Global Digitalization: Comparative Approaches from Developing and Developed Countries

Digitalization is profoundly transforming international economic relations. Digital trade, cross-border data flows, platform-based services, fintech, digital assets, and algorithm-driven markets challenge the foundational assumptions of international trade law, investment protection regimes, and international financial regulation. At the same time, the regulatory responses to digitalization differ significantly across jurisdictions. Developed and developing countries often face divergent policy priorities, institutional capacities, and developmental constraints. These differences raise important questions about regulatory convergence and divergence, equity, development policy space, and the future architecture of international economic law.

This conference seeks to foster rigorous academic debate on how international trade, investment, and financial law are evolving in response to global digitalization, with particular emphasis on comparative legal perspectives and North–South dynamics.

Topics of Interest

The conference welcomes original and unpublished research papers addressing, inter alia:

A. International Trade Law and National Regulation of the Digital Economy

1. WTO rules and digital trade provisions in regional and bilateral trade agreements
2. Regulation of cross-border data flows, data localization measures, and digital sovereignty under international trade law
3. Public policy exceptions, necessity, and proportionality in disputes involving digital trade regulation
4. Domestic regulation of e-commerce, digital services, and online platforms and their compatibility with international trade obligations
5. Data protection, privacy regulation, and cybersecurity governance in international trade law
6. Competition law, consumer protection, and regulatory oversight in digital and platform-based markets
7. Legal implications of artificial intelligence (AI) in cross-border digital commerce and trade regulation
8. Contract formation, electronic signatures, smart contracts, and automated transactions in international digital transactions

B. International Investment Law and Domestic Regulation of Digital Industries

1. Application of investment protection standards (e.g., fair and equitable treatment, indirect expropriation, national treatment) to digital and technology-based investments
2. Regulation of artificial intelligence, data infrastructures, digital platforms, and technology sectors and their interaction with investment treaty obligations
3. Regulatory measures affecting digital enterprises, data governance, and technology regulation in investment treaty practice
4. Investor–State dispute settlement involving digital regulation, technology governance, or restrictions on digital assets
5. Arbitration of disputes arising from digital and technology-related investments
6. National security review mechanisms and foreign investment screening in strategic technology sectors
7. Corporate structuring, treaty planning, and regulatory risk allocation in the digital economy
8. Insolvency, restructuring, and cross-border governance of digital enterprises

C. International Financial Law and National Regulation of Digital Finance

1. International regulatory standards governing digital financial services and FinTech
2. Legal classification and regulation of cryptocurrencies, digital assets, and tokenized assets
3. Central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) and their implications for international monetary and financial law
4. AI in financial markets: governance, accountability, and regulatory oversight
5. Prudential regulation, systemic risk management, and financial stability in digital financial markets
6. Cross-border regulatory cooperation and jurisdictional conflicts in digital financial regulation

D. Arbitration and Dispute Resolution in the Digital Economy

1. Arbitration and dispute resolution in disputes arising from digital trade and cross-border digital transactions, digital financial transactions, FinTech platforms, and digital assets
2. Investor–State arbitration involving digital regulation, technology governance, and digital assets
3. Procedural and evidentiary challenges in arbitration involving digital technologies, data governance, and AI systems
4. Recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards under the New York Convention in disputes involving digital commerce, technology investments, and digital assets
5. The role of arbitration and alternative dispute resolution in resolving cross-border disputes in the digital economy

E. Comparative Legal Approaches and Development Perspectives

1. Comparative regulation of digital trade, investment, and digital finance in developed and developing countries
2. Divergent national approaches to data governance, AI regulation, and platform regulation
3. Regulatory convergence, fragmentation, and conflicts of laws in the global governance of the digital economy
4. Extraterritorial application of digital regulation and its implications for developing countries
5. Policy space, regulatory autonomy, and development strategies in the digital economy
6. Institutional design, regulatory capacity, and governance challenges in developing countries

Interdisciplinary, comparative, and policy-oriented contributions are particularly encouraged.

Submission Guidelines

Submissions must include both an abstract and a full paper. Abstracts should be **no more than 300 words**. Full papers should range from **5,000 to 15,000 words**, including footnotes. Submissions must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration elsewhere. The conference accepts electronic submissions only. Manuscripts should be submitted in a Word-processing format (Microsoft Word).

Abstracts: Abstracts and full papers should be submitted via the https://forms.gle/kXg1etDjre3W4czD8 or by scanning the QR code below:

Scan to Submit

Submission guidelines: For detailed formatting and submission instructions, please scan the Guidelines QR code below:

Submission Guidelines

Language: English

Peer Review

All submissions will be subject to blind peer review and will be handled on a confidential basis. Papers will be evaluated on the basis of originality, analytical rigor, relevance to the conference theme, and contribution to the field.

Publication Opportunities

Accepted papers presented at the conference will be eligible for publication in the conference proceedings with an ISBN. High-quality papers may be recommended for submission to the Manchester Journal of International Economic Law (SCOPUS, Q3, ESCI). All journal submissions will be subject to the journal's independent double-blind peer-review process. Recommendation does not guarantee publication.

Important Dates

- Abstract submission deadline : **31 May 2026**
- Notification of abstract acceptance : **30 June 2026**
- Full paper submission deadline : **10 November 2026**
- Conference dates : **10-11 December 2026**

Fees and Participation

Authors of accepted papers selected for presentation will be required to pay a presentation and publication fee of **USD 100 (approximately VND 2,500,000)**, which includes tea breaks and lunches.

All participants, including presenters and attendees, are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. Only accepted papers that are presented at the conference will be eligible for consideration for publication in the conference proceedings or related post-conference publications, subject to the conference's editorial standards and publication arrangements.

Enquiries

We look forward to your contributions to this academic event. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the conference secretariat at **anhdk@ftu.edu.vn**.