



SYMPOSIUM
Ghent, 5-6 December 2005

‘EVERYTHING BUT ARMS’: ALL ABOUT NOTHING?
EU trade politics and developing countries

PROGRAMME

Monday 5 December 2005

09.00 Opening and welcome address by Prof. Hendrik Vos (Jean Monnet Centre)
09.15 Introduction by Jan Orbie and Gerrit Faber

First session *Intra-institutional skirmishing: preponderance for development?*

9.30 Maurizio Carbone (University of Glasgow), Conflicts over 'Everything but Arms'. The Politics of Trade and Development in the European Union

10.30 Adrian Van den Hoven: Bureaucratic Competition in EU trade policy: Competing two-level games? The Everything But Arms Case

11.30 Jess Pilegaard, The Everything But Arms initiative: 'A small step for mankind; a giant leap for the EU'

12.00 Lunch

Second session *EBA as an instrument of export promotion and development*

13.00 David Mayer Foulkes (Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas), EBA, free trade and economic development

13.30 Olufemi Babarinde and Gerrit Faber, SSA exports and preferential systems: a comparative analysis of EBA and AGOA

15.00 Paul Brenton and Caglar Ozden (World Bank), Unilateral Trade Preferences of the US and the EU. Their Effectiveness and the Role of the Rules of Origin in the Apparel Sector.

16.30 Dries Lesage (Ghent University), EU and US trade policy vis-à-vis Least Developed Countries

Dinner

Tuesday 6 December 2005

Third session ***EBA and CAP reform***

- 9.00 Alan Matthews and Jean-Christophe Bureau (Trinity College Dublin),
The significance of the EBA scheme for CAP reform
- 10.30 Michael Brüntrup (German Development Institute), EBA and the EU-Sugar
market – development gift or Trojan horse
- 12.00 Lunch

Fourth session ***EBA and regional and global trade negotiations***

- 13.00 Sanussi Bilal (ECDPM), ACP/EU negotiations on Regional Partnership
Agreements (EPAs) and EBA
- 14.00 Jan Orbie (Ghent University), The catalyzing role of EBA in the shift from
Lomé to Cotonou
- 15.00 Andy Storey (Centre for Development Studies, University College Dublin),
Normative Power Europe? EBA, Economic Partnership Agreements and
Benevolent Self-Images
- 16.00 Plans for the future: the follow-up of the symposium and closing of the
symposium

CALL FOR PAPERS

Background

During the past decade the European Union has presented itself as a leading and benevolent actor towards the South. Even the Union's trade policy, traditionally the 'core business' of Europe's action on the international scene, claims to prioritise the developing world's interests. One trade initiative towers above all the others: 'Everything But Arms'. Granting completely free market access to imports from the Least Developed Countries, this regulation quickly became the showpiece of Europe's external trade and development policy.

Research objectives

Five years after this highly politicised trade initiative came into force, this conference envisages a comprehensive understanding of the motivations behind and the consequences of EBA. Departing from the observation that the impact of 'Everything But Arms' is limited in terms of trade flows, the basic research question reads what (if any) role EBA plays in EU politics. All about nothing?

More specifically, we welcome contributions that examine the significance of EBA for:

- EU external politics: WTO Doha Round, EU-ACP relationship, other Quad initiatives...
- EU internal politics: CAP reform, role of the Commission, politicisation of trade policy...

Organisation

This small-scale symposium aims to invite economic and political science scholars, with a view to prepare the publication of a book on the role of EBA in EU trade and development policy. Transportation and accommodation costs can be sponsored by the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence of Ghent University.

Conference convenors

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