



AFRICAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC LAW  
NETWORK (AFIELN)



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Society of  
International  
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Law

# 6th Biennial Conference

AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC LAW NETWORK (AFIELN)

T H E M E :

**International Economic Law in an  
Era of Multiple Crises: Opportunities  
and Challenges for Africa**

**21st – 24th June, 2023**

Ghana Institute of Management and  
Public Administration (GIMPA), Accra, Ghana



**THE AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW NETWORK (AFIELN)  
CONFERENCE DRAFT PROGRAM  
GHANA INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION,  
FACULTY OF LAW (GIMPA), ACCRA, GHANA  
21 TO 24 JUNE 2023**

<b>DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 2023</b>	
14:00-15:30	Registration
15:30-15:40	<b>Welcome remarks</b> Titilayo Adebola, AfIELN President
15:40-16:00	<b>Opening remarks and organisation of the conference</b> Kwaku Agyeman-Budu, Dean, Faculty of Law, GIMPA & Regis Simo, Conference Chairperson
16:00-16:40	<b>Opening Keynote:</b> Joy Kategekwa
16:40-17:20	<b>Roundtable on Opening Keynote</b>
17:20-18:20	Welcome drinks: Fireside Chat, Pedro's Premium Ogogoro
<b>DAY 2: THURSDAY, 22 JUNE 2023</b>	
9:00-10:00	<b>Plenary 1: African Sovereign Debt Justice Network (AfSDJN) Sovereign Debt 1</b>
10:00-11:30	<b>Panel 1: International Economic Law &amp; Geopolitics</b>  <b>Chair: TBC</b>  <b>Panel</b>  Mohsen al Attar "Racial Capitalism and the Dialectics of Development: Exposing the Limits and Lies of International Economic Law"  Adaeze Aniodoh "The Shifting Paradigms in the Global Economy, and Africa's Quest for a Multilateral Framework"  Marie-Louise F. Aren "The Proposed Global Multilateral Investment Court: Opportunities and Concerns for African Investment Interests"  Xiuli Han (Julia) "An Analysis on the Legality of Unilateral Economic Sanctions in International Investment Law"  Sand Mba Kalu "Bilateral and Regional Trade/Investment/Economic Partnership Agreements in Africa"

	<p><b>Panel 2: Intellectual Property and Competition Law</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel:</b></p> <p>Nkemdilim Itanyi ‘The AfCFTA Protocol on Intellectual Property Rights and its Role in the Prevention of Counterfeiting in International Trade: Opportunities and Challenges for Businesses in Africa’</p> <p>Festus Gboyega Oyebade &amp; Oluwadamilare Adeyemi ‘Appraisal of the Effectiveness of the Legal Protection of the Creative Industry in Nigeria’</p> <p>Juliet A. Ogbodo ‘Reinventing, or recycling the usual: AfCFTA IP Protocol in Regional Trade Agreements’</p> <p>Amrin Panjwani ‘Coal or Diamonds? A comparative analysis of the response of Competition Agencies in Africa to high-pressure situations’</p> <p>Irene Kariuki ‘Harmonized Consumer Protection Legislation, International Business and Sustainable Development in the 21st Century Africa’</p>
	<p><b>Panel 3: Investment</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Roberto Isibor &amp; Caterina Coroneo ‘The Crisis of the ISDS System: Balancing: The Need of Foreign Investment and the Right of African States to Self-Regulation in the Era of Multiple Crises’</p> <p>Tamfuh Y.N Wilson ‘International Arbitration and Investor-State Proceedings: A Case Study of the Procedural Developments at the Common Court of Justice and Arbitration (CCJA) of the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Laws in Africa (OHADA)’</p> <p>Divesh Kaul ‘Rule of Law and Foreign Investment Protection: Comparative Perspectives from Africa and India’</p> <p>Kathleen Mpofu ‘Assessing the viability of investor liability provisions in the reform agenda of international investment law’</p> <p>Dominic N. Dagbanja ‘International Investment Agreements and Technology Transfer to Africa’</p>
	<p><b>Panel 4: Digital Trade I</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel:</b></p> <p>Neha Mishra &amp; Kolofelo Kugler ‘The Emergence of an International Community in the Global Digital Economy’</p> <p>Chidochashe Ncube ‘Rethinking the principle of non-discrimination in the digital trade era: A case of African Continental Free Trade Area’</p>

	Fola Adeleke 'Data Protection in Africa: New trajectories for International Economic Law'
11:30-11:45	<b>Tea and Coffee Break</b>
11:45-13:15	<p><b>Panel 5: Trade and Gender</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Tsotang Tsietsi 'The Contribution of Trade Facilitation to the Economic Empowerment of African Women'</p> <p>Olalekan Moyosore Lalude &amp; Yinka Olomjobi 'Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the African Continental Free Trade Area: The Balance between Gender Inclusivity and Cultural Constraint'</p> <p>Muluken Kassahun Amid 'Menstrual Product Trade, Tampon Taxes and Women's Rights in Africa: Comparative Study'</p> <p>Jane Ezirigwe 'Fundamental Considerations in Advancing Gender Responsive Nature-Based Climate Resilient Development'</p> <p>Modesta A. Nsowaa-Adu 'Beyond Merchandised Trade: Exploring the Unexplored Potential of Services Trade for Women's Economic Empowerment in Africa'</p>
	<p><b>Panel 6: Development Finance</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Emmanuel Laryea 'The Rich Borrow and the Poor Pay: Dispossessed Poor, their Predator Elites and the International Law and International Financial System that Facilitate the Predation'</p> <p>Kingsley Osinachi N. Onu &amp; Jaja Adefe Philip Mirabel 'Climate Finance in Nigeria through the Instrumentality of the Climate Change Act 2021'</p> <p>Ruth Teitelbaum 'Sharing the Pain of Award Payment and Climate Change Policy: a Collective Fund for ICSID Awards'</p> <p>Richard Mlambe 'State's Regulatory Powers and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Contracts: Recent Trends and Way Forward for Africa'</p>
	<p><b>Panel 7: Emerging Issues in Terrorism, Cyber-terrorism and Piracy</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Bernard Ngalim 'Protecting Africa's Critical Infrastructure from Cyberattacks'</p> <p>Col Felix Alaita (rtd) 'International Economic Law and Terrorism Financing'</p>

	<p>Imarha Oghenyerowo Reuben ‘The Economic Impact of Terrorism, Cyber-Terrorism and Piracy in Africa: A Clue from Nigeria and Libya’</p>
	<p><b>Panel 8: Health, Food &amp; Natural Resources</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Ronald Tundang ‘The Outlook for Transfer of Technology of mRNA Vaccines through the WHO Tech Transfer Hub’</p> <p>Uchechukwu Ngwaba ‘Regional Cooperation for Health Governance as Africa’s Pathway to Future Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response’</p> <p>Juliet Aimienrovbiye ‘Food Safety and Regional Harmonisation of Laws for the Advancement of Trade in Africa’</p> <p>Osione Oseni-Elamah ‘Attaining Food Security in Africa’s Poverty Capital through the AfCFTA’</p> <p>Kingsley O.N. Onu, Beatrice O. Jokotola &amp; Faith Markson ‘Energy Transition in Nigeria: The Law, Issues and Prospects’</p>
	<p><b>Lunch 13:15–14:15</b></p> <p><b>Plenary 2: Seeds, Gene Banks and Farmers Rights in Africa</b></p>
14:15 -15:15	<p><b>Plenary 3: African Sovereign Debt Justice Network (AfSDJN) Sovereign Debt II</b></p>
15:15-16:45	<p><b>Panel 9: AfCFTA I – Services &amp; People</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Reagan Etale ‘Professional services and mode 4 in the AfCFTA: Liberalisation or status quo?’</p> <p>Legborsi Nwiabu ‘Rules of Origin for Trade in Services under the African Continental Free Trade Area’</p> <p>Victor Amadi ‘The imperative for the free movement of people as we move toward a Common Market in Africa’</p> <p>Mawuto Tossa ‘Sante publique et protection des investissements en Afrique: entre tensions et interactions’</p>

	<p><b>Panel 10: Civil Society and Non-State Actors</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Opeyemi Bello ‘The Need For A Responsive African Business Community in International Taxation’</p> <p>Kofi Kufuor ‘Citizen Participation and the Success of Regional Integration in Africa’</p> <p>Leezola Zongwe ‘Reimagining Dispute Settlement in Extractives Toward More Mining Mediation &amp; Arbitration and Less Litigation’</p> <p>Arnorld Nciko &amp; Babatunde Fagbayibo ‘The Role of the African Union Commission of International Law in Enhancing International Legal Education in Africa: A Critical Assessment’</p> <p>Suzzie O Oyakhire &amp; Ohio Omiunu ‘Decolonising the Decoloniser: A Reflection of Two Global South Scholars situated on either side of the North-South Divide’</p>
	<p><b>Panel 11: Human Rights and International Economic Law</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Adeline Auffret-O’Neill ‘Human Rights Protection by IEL’</p> <p>Adewuyi Stella Jesuloluwa ‘African Continental Free Trade Agreement 2018 and its Human Rights Implications for Nigeria’</p> <p>Michael C. Ogwezzy ‘Implications of Regional Trade Agreements and Cooperation in Africa on Human Rights: The Case of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement’</p> <p>Patricia Kiruimra Nattabi ‘Bridging the Gap: The Role of Sustainable Development Principles and Human Rights Under the African Continental Free Trade Agreement’s Protocol on Investment’</p> <p>Olasupo Owoeye &amp; Sara Garba ‘The Right to Development and its Significance in International Economic Law’</p>
	<p><b>Panel 12: Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL)</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Michael Chitavi &amp; George Gona ‘Lessons from Kilwa: Trading and legal tender’</p> <p>John Nyanje ‘Using Swahili as a Tool to Decolonize the East African Court of Justice’</p> <p>Ketty Candgura Akello ‘Africa and the International Investment Regime’ [correct title pending]</p>

	Nwamaka Okany 'Africa and the Energy Charter Treaty: A Case for (Non-) Accession?'
16:50-17:50	<b>African Sovereign Debt Justice Network (AfSDJN) Book launch</b>
<b>DAY 3: FRIDAY, 23 JUNE 2023</b>	
9:00-9:55	<b>Plenary 4: Africanisation and International Investment Regimes in Africa</b>
10:00-11:30	<p><b>Panel 13: AfCFTA II – Informal Trade &amp; MSMEs</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Eberechukwu Ezike 'Special Trade Regime for Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises under the African Continental Free Trade Area: A Game Changer?'</p> <p>Adetutu Oluwaseyi 'Informal Cross-Border Trade (ICBT) in Africa: Implications for inclusive and sustainable regional trade development under the AfCFTA'</p> <p>Jonathan Bashi 'Covid-19, Public Authority, and the Governance of Informal Cross-Border Trade in Eastern DRC'</p> <p>Mmaobi Nwafor-Orizu 'International Economic Law in an Era of Multiple Crises: Opportunities and Challenges for Africa'</p>
	<p><b>Panel 14: Intellectual Property and Competition Law</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Ronjini Ray &amp; Rishabha Meena 'Delineating the scope of Technology Transfer to African countries: Recommendations and Way Forward for effective Technology Transfer'</p> <p>Janet Njambi Macharia 'An Evaluation of the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property: A Case for the Request for Waiver'</p> <p>Chimdessa Tsega 'Regional Transposition of TRIPS Patent Flexibilities in Africa: COMESA as a Case Study'</p> <p>Vellah Kedogo Kigwiru 'The Direct Applicability of the 2004 COMESA Competition Regulations in the COMESA Member States'</p> <p>Desmond Osaretin Oriakhogba 'Right to research as a tool for overcoming copyright challenges to the development of artificial intelligence for Africa's digital transformation'</p>
	<p><b>Panel 15: AI, Blockchains &amp; Cryptocurrencies I</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p>

	<p>Eniola (Sadare) Sonuga ‘Operationalizing the AfCFTA Through Decentralised Finance and Technology’</p> <p>Chido Mitchel Teclar Muza ‘Emerging issues in the use of blockchain technology in cross-border transactions’</p> <p>Abdulahleem Mabisi ‘Blockchain technology, AI and Trade’ [exact title pending]</p> <p>Lavina Ramkissoon ‘Technological solutions that bridge the era of crisis’</p> <p>Rimdolmsom Jonathan Kabre ‘Regulating cryptocurrencies in the Central African Republic: Has the cart been put before the horse?’</p> <hr/> <p><b>Panel 16: International Economic Law&amp; Sustainable Development Goals I</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Okechukwu Ejims ‘African Union Foreign Investment Law and Climate Change’</p> <p>Javier Garcia Olmedo ‘Climate Change and Investment Treaty Arbitration: Challenges for Africa’</p> <p>Bariyira Simple Kpea-Ue ‘The Role of International Economic Laws in Achieving Environmental Friendly Operations in the Extractive Industry in Africa’</p> <p>Chengetai E. Hamadzipi ‘Policy space for clean energy technologies/policies: Developing subsidy rules for clean energy technologies within the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)’</p> <p>Katrin Kuhlmann ‘A Comparative and Contextual Assessment of Inclusive and Sustainable Trade and Development in Regional Trade Agreements’</p>
<p><b>11:30-11:45</b></p>	<p><b>Tea and Coffee Break</b></p>
<p>11:45-13:15</p>	<p><b>Panel 17: Digital Trade II</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Nelly Rotich ‘The Interplay between Existing Rules on E-commerce and Negotiations of the AfCFTA Protocol on E-commerce: Is Lack of Acquis a Dead End’</p> <p>Alexander Beyleveld &amp; Franziska Sucker ‘Competition rules for navigating distributional inequalities when regulating crossborder data flows within the AfCFTA’</p> <p>Ikechukwu Okafor ‘Mapping the Regulatory Framework for African Digital Economic Integration through Fintech Innovations’</p> <p>Rutendo Tavengerwei ‘Investigating Regulatory Entrepreneurship in Data-Driven Trade in the SADC Region’</p>



	<p><b>Panel 18: Trade Agreements, Dispute Settlement and Enforcement</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel:</b></p> <p>Sibusiso Gama ‘A critical analysis of the application of international and regional trade agreements in the domestic law of member states. Lessons from the British American Tobacco cases in the East and Southern region national courts’</p> <p>Aniekan Ukpe &amp; Erebi Ndoni ‘Implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement in domestic jurisdictions’</p> <p>Tomasz Milej ‘Next to nothing? The role of Kenyan Judiciary in promoting regional integration’</p> <p>Jackline Nyaga ‘New Wine in Old Skin? A Critical Analysis of the AFCFTA’s Dispute Resolution Mechanism in the Context of the Upsides and Downsides of Replicating the WTO’s Dispute Resolution Mechanism’</p> <p>Ankit Malhotra ‘Fragmentation of International Economic Law: The Interpretation of WTO Agreement’ [</p>
	<p><b>Panel 19: North-South Relations</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Youcef Hamitouche ‘EU and the global energy transition: The case of Desertec project as a renewable energy source for Europe in North Africa’/ Youcef Hamitouche ‘Climate change, population mobility and the war for access to natural resources in the Sahel (Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso)’</p> <p>Humu-Annie Seini ‘The North-South Divide in an Era of Energy Transition, Deja Vu?’</p> <p>Antonia Eliason ‘Racial Capitalism, Neocolonialism and Supply Chains’</p> <p>Patrick Anam ‘Contextualising the Impact of European Unions’ Trade Relations with Africa on Africa’s Regional and Continental Integration’</p>
	<p><b>Panel 20: Business and Human Rights</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Emmanuel Nartey ‘MNCs and Human Rights’</p> <p>Caroline Lichuma &amp; Florence Shako ‘International, Regional and National Business and Human Rights (BHR) Developments: Simultaneously Centering and Decentering Africa’s Marginal Position in the Quest to Reduce the Transnational Corporate Accountability Gap?’</p> <p>Seid Demeke Mekonnen ‘The responsibilities of transnational corporations to respect and protect labor rights: Case studies in Ethiopia’</p>

	<p>Uchenna Anyamele ‘The e-Naira as a Tool for Financial Inclusion in Nigeria’</p> <p>Paul Adole Ejembi &amp; Joycelin Chinwe Eze-Okubuiro ‘Stimulating an Enabling Regulatory and Technological Environment for the Advancement of Contemporary African Economies’</p>
<b>13:15-14:15</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
14:15-15:45	<p><b>Panel 21: Sovereign Debt</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Daniel Bradlow ‘Human Rights and Sovereign Debt Restructurings: A Proposal for An Optimal Outcome’</p> <p>Mpho Makatiso Seoane ‘Managing Sovereign Debt in a developing country amid the COVID-19 era’</p> <p>Issabella Anane-Fosuhene ‘Debt restructuring for sustainable debt levels in Ghana: A utilitarian or deontological approach’</p> <p>Dotse Tsikata ‘Emerging Norms and Standards in the Treatment of Sovereign Debt Crises - What Significance for Africa?’</p> <p>Ifeanyichukwu Azuka Aniyie ‘Proposals for Sovereign Debt Management Reform: A Review from the Perspective of the Global South’</p> <p><b>Panel 22: International Economic Law Development &amp; the WTO</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p> <p>Nadia Salim ‘The Opportunities and Challenges in Achieving Shared Prosperity for Africa Under the International Economic Law Regime’</p> <p>Mbakiso Magwape ‘AfCFTA and Revenue: Navigating Outstanding Fiscal Issues and Legal Framework to attain Agenda 2063’</p> <p>Lozindaba Mbvundula ‘Implications of the 12th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation on the African Continental Free Trade Area’</p> <p>Atupele Masanjala ‘Malawi’s Cotton Trade: Riding the Coattails of the Cotton-4’</p> <p>Dessie Tilahun Ayalew ‘The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as a new wave of Mega-RTAs: Its Potential of Multilateralizing African Spaghetti Bowls as a laboratory and Challenges’</p> <p><b>Panel 23: AfCFTA III</b></p> <p><b>Chair: TBC</b></p> <p><b>Panel</b></p>

	<p>Christopher Nyinevi ‘The Current Legal Status and Continued Relevance of the Abuja Treaty to the African Economic Integration Agenda’</p> <p>Arinze B. Okiche ‘Are African Regional Trade Agreements Intended to Create Legally Binding Obligations’</p> <p>Kayode Olude ‘Square peg in a round hole; Nigeria’s trade policies and faux alignment with the global quest for shared prosperity, competitiveness, economic growth and development’</p> <p>Omoniyi Bukola Akinola ‘Legal and Regulatory Framework for Leveraging on the African Continental Free Trade Area by Nigerian Companies’</p> <p>Annabel Nanjira ‘Analysing the Effectiveness of the African Continental Free Trade Area in “Righting” the Wrongs of the Existing Regional Economic Communities’</p>
16:00-16:55	<b>Roundtable 1: Maritime Administration in Africa</b>
17:00-17:55	<b>Roundtable 2: Data Protection in Africa</b>
18:00	<b>Conference dinner</b>
<b>DAY 4: SATURDAY, 24 JUNE 2023</b>	
8:00 -10:00	<p><b>Early Career Theory/Methodology/Methods Workshop</b></p> <p>Facilitators: Obiora Okafor, Olufunmilayo Arewa and James Gathii</p>
10:00 -10:10	Conference Photo
10:10 -11:20	Closing Plenary on the AfCFTA
11:20 -11:50	<b>Closing Keynote:</b> Richard Oppong
12:00-12:30	<b>Private Museum Tour</b>
12:30-13:30	<b>Roundtable 3: Repatriation of Artefacts, Creative Industries and the Law</b>
13:30-14:00	<p><b>Closing Drinks</b></p> <p><b>Closing Remarks: Tsofeng Tsietse, AfIELN Vice President</b></p>

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