

ARGENTINE JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS (RAEI)

February 2013 – Number 1

CONTENTS

MULTILATERALISM FROM AN ARGENTINE PERSPECTIVE

CHANGES IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC POWER STRUCTURE: TOWARDS A MULTIPOLAR
WORLD?

THE G20 AND THE RESULTS OF THE LOS CABOS SUMMIT

“GREEN TRADE PROTECTIONISM”: AN ANALYSIS OF THREE NEW ISSUES THAT AFFECT
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

IMPACT OF SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES, AND OF TECHNICAL
REGULATIONS ON ARGENTINE EXPORTS OF LEMONS

CHALLENGES FOR A NEW MERCOSUR

ARGENTINE TRADE BY REGION IN THE PERIOD 1990–2011

EDITORIAL

The Argentine Journal of International Economics (RAEI), edited by the National Directorate Centre for International Economy (DNCEI) of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, is born in the midst of a global crisis which does not seem to be coming to an end in the short term. Moreover, the world scenario shows signs of instability which are the result of the transition from the existing international world order to a different one whose sense, scope, direction and logic have been subject of much debate.

Given the field of expertise of CEI, being part of today's world impels us to act and we hope to contribute –by making use of different analytical tools– to the course of action that is being taken with the specific aim of leaving behind the historical and recurrent external restriction that hindered our country's development aspirations.

Both our country's foreign trade policy and optimal performance in the international negotiations are instruments which are crucial to the consolidation of an economic policy that strengthens the transformation process of our production structure and matrix. Therefore, with this new bi-annual publication we intend to provide the reader with information about two main thematic areas: a) structural conflicts that result from the global accumulation of capital; and b) the courses of action that may be taken as a result of those events.

With this aim in mind, the first article of this first issue of the RAEI Journal deals with the evolution of multilateralism and the changes undergone by the main rules established by the international organisations that have governed world trade, thus acknowledging the importance of said rules when it comes to reinforcing our country's strategy for development.

In order to delve into the dilemma “multipolarism without multilateralism”, the second article looks into the changes that took place in the global economic power structure. In line with this, the third article presents the status of the negotiations within the G20, after the Los Cabos Summit, held in Mexico, in the light of the results obtained.

Likewise, the old and new international trade conflicts are analysed in two articles of this first edition. One of these articles explores the new mechanisms for managing trade flows that developed countries are trying to implement through the use of environmental grounds (such as “green protectionism”). On the other hand, the other article assesses the impact of sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and of technical regulations on Argentine exports of lemons; an obstacle that the Argentine production has been facing for almost two decades.

In turn, in order to analyse what is going on at the regional level, the RAEI Journal offers both an essay that reflects upon the strategic steps taken by MERCOSUR and an overview on Argentine trade by region in the period 1990–2011.

Thus, in this first issue of the RAEI Journal we have begun to analyse the implications that the trends in the world economy –in its different aspects– have on the development of our country.

Every new publication implies a challenge. Every challenge implies commitment. Our commitment –the commitment of CEI and of this Journal– is with the national interest, defined in terms of development on the basis of economic independence, political sovereignty and social justice.

The opinion expressed in this publication does not necessarily reflect the views
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina.

Total or partial reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.

Please note that the RAEI is in Spanish only.