

Global China Seminar

The 'non-market' clause in USMCA and the future of Canada-China economic relations



(Image: iStock, CrailsheimStudio)

This talk examines the recently agreed North American trade deal, the United States, Mexico, Canada Agreement (USMCA), and the new complexities it brings to the future of China's trade relations with the three North American countries. Article 32.10 of USMCA, the 'non-market' clause, restricts the ability of the parties to enter into a "free trade agreement" with 'non-market' economies. What does this de facto veto for the US over countries seeking to sign trade agreements with China mean for future relations between Canada and China and for any country wanting to engage with China while dealing with the US? What are the implications of this for the multilateral trading system in the 21st Century?

About the speaker

Hugh L. Stephens has more than 35 years of government and business experience in the Asia-Pacific region. He is currently Vice Chair of the Canadian Committee on Pacific Economic Cooperation (CANCPEC), Distinguished Fellow at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada and Executive Fellow at the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary. He teaches in the MBA program at Royal Roads University as an Associate Faculty member. Previously he was Senior Vice President (Public Policy) for Asia-Pacific for Time Warner for almost a decade in Hong Kong. Mr. Stephens spent 30 years in the Canadian Foreign Service with the Department of External Affairs, later the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). His last Ottawa assignment was as Assistant Deputy Minister for Policy and Communications in DFAIT. He also served abroad as Canadian Representative in Taiwan, Counsellor and Charge d'affaires at the Canadian Embassies in Seoul, Korea and Islamabad, Pakistan and at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing.

Date: Wednesday, 24 October 2018

Time: 5 - 6pm

Venue: AM 103, Alan MacDiarmid, Kelburn Campus, Victoria University of Wellington ([map](#))

If you are interested to attend this seminar, please email Lai Ching at laiching.tan@vuw.ac.nz or call 04 463 9549 to RSVP.