Call for Papers

Trade and Trade Policy in the 21st Century

April 8-9, 2022

The last two decades have been turbulent times for international trade, with the 2008 international financial crisis, trade tensions between China and the United States, the Brexit vote in the United Kingdom, a broader shift to protection and active industrial policy, threats to the future of the World Trade Organization (WTO), new technologies such as automation, robots and 3-D printing, concerns about long global supply chains, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the increasing urgency of addressing climate change. Each of these changes in the global economic environment raises questions about the future of international trade and trade policy in the 21st Century.

To promote research on these issues, the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), with the support of the Smith Richardson Foundation, plans to convene an in-person research conference, public health circumstances permitting, in Cambridge, Massachusetts on Friday-Saturday, April 8-9, 2022. The conference will be organized by Stephen Redding (Princeton University and NBER) and Robert Staiger (Dartmouth College and NBER). The conference will also be live-streamed to promote broader access.

This conference will include papers on all aspects of international trade and trade policy, with a focus on new features of the world economy in the 21st century, and the prospects for future globalization or de-globalization. In keeping with NBER policy, papers may not make policy recommendations.

The organizers will consider both theoretical and empirical papers. All submissions must be uploaded by midnight EST on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, to the following site:

http://conference.nber.org/confsubmit/backend/cfp?id=TTPs22

Submissions from authors with and without NBER affiliations, from early career scholars, and from researchers from under-represented groups are welcome. Please do not submit published papers or those that will be published by April 2022. Decisions about which papers will be included on the program will be announced by early February, 2022. The NBER will cover the cost of two authors per paper attending the research conference; all co-authors will be invited. Questions may be addressed to confer@nber.org.