



GNLU-CTIL TRADELAB CLINIC SPRING 2022

GNLU-CTIL TradeLab Clinic is a joint initiative of the Centre for Trade and Investment Law, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and Gujarat National Law University. The TradeLab Clinic provides students with the opportunity to work on contemporary real-life issues of International Trade Law and gain clinical legal education benefits.

Students from GNLU are chosen every semester to participate in GNLU-CTIL TradeLab clinics as student researchers.



Making WTO, Preferential Trade And Bilateral Investment Treaties Work for Everyone

ABOUT TRADELAB

TradeLab is a Geneva based initiative which brings together students, academics, and legal practitioners with the aim of empowering stakeholders to avail the benefits of research in international trade law and international investment law.

TradeLab operations function on a hub-and-spoke basis with CTIL serving as an anchor institution between the GNLU and the beneficiaries (of the research projects) to ensure seamless coordination and communication.

GNLU-CTIL SPRING 2022 TRADELAB CLINIC

The TradeLab clinic is being run at GNLU under the auspices of GNLU Centre for Public and Private International Law and is being supervised by Prof. (Dr.) S Shantakumar and Prof. Harsha Rajwanshi. Through the GNLU-CTIL TradeLab Clinic, student researchers have the opportunity to network with beneficiaries, address real-life legal issues, and gain academic credit.

SPRING 2022 PROJECT

Following students were selected for the GNLU-CTIL TradeLab Clinic for Semester Jan-June 2022/Spring 2022:

Hritvik Mohan (Batch 2019-24)

Mathangi K (Batch 2018-23)

M Ramachandran (Batch 2019-24)

Surya Ravikumar (Batch 2019-24)

Tanvi Rahim (Batch of 2018-23)

‘Circumvention of GATS Commitments under Mode 4 Supply of Services’

The students worked on a project for a confidential beneficiary on the topic **‘Circumvention of GATS Commitments under Mode 4 Supply of Services’**. Their report analyses the commitments made by Member States under Mode 4 Supply of Services of GATS and the circumvention of the same through FTAs and immigration policies of the countries. It focuses on two aspects – commitments under FTAs signed by the countries and the immigration policies adopted by these countries.

After incorporating the inputs given by the team at CTIL, the students submitted their final report in August 2022.

A non-confidential summary of the report can be accessed here:

TESTIMONIALS

Being a part of the GNLU-CTIL TradeLab Clinic was a really intellectually stimulating experience for me. I got the chance to actually apply theoretical knowledge of trade law to a real world issue, which could potentially create a lasting impact for the beneficiary as well as the international community at large. This in itself was rewarding enough, but it was also an equally challenging task since it required us to go really deep into specific aspects of the law.

The academic discourses that we had, along with the plethora of brainstorming sessions within the team, was something that we could have never really experienced in a classroom. Our mentors and supervisors also provided us with valuable feedback, and discussions with them regarding the project also helped me to really understand international trade law more holistically, as well as understand how it is practically applied.

Overall, it was an amazing experience to work alongside experienced professionals and my colleagues from the University!



Hritvik Mohan (Batch of 2019-24)

Working with the trade lab has been an enriching experience. It was the first time I got to work on a real time international trade law issue. The novelty of the problem made it a very interesting, at the same time, a challenging task.

Brainstorming and discussing the various approaches to the problem with my teammates as well as practitioners in the field made the experience a very fruitful one.



- Mathangi K (Batch of 2018-23)

Working in the GNLU-CTIL TradeLab Clinic was an intellectually stimulating and satisfying experience. It was the first time I had worked on a real-life trade law issue, and that too in conjunction with trade law professionals at CTIL. The sheer volume of work was initially a daunting prospect, but I managed the burden by shouldering it with my able teammates. Working on such a technical issue sharpened my analytical and critical thinking skills. Overall, working in the TradeLab Clinic was an invaluable learning experience that has helped me gain exposure to the field of trade law. I would like to thank Dr. Sanjeevi Shanthakumar and Ms. Harsha Rajwanshi of the GNLU Centre for Private International Law for giving me the opportunity and support to undertake this endeavour.



- Ramachandran M (Batch of 2019-24)

The opportunity to be a part of the TradeLab Clinic operated by the Centre for Trade and Investment Law was intellectually enriching. We were tasked to prepare a confidential report which had real world implications. Consequently, it was an invaluable learning experience given that the research required me to think critically while considering the practical consequences our findings. Further getting an opportunity to interact with the mentors from CTIL, helped me gain exposure in terms of understanding how to make our report have an impact. This experience has truly broadened my interest in International Economic Law.



Surya Ravikumar (Batch 2019-24)



Working in the TradeLab Clinic was an academically interesting and nourishing practice. It was the first time I had worked on a real-life trade law issue, and that too in union with trade law professionals at CTIL. Thinking and deliberating upon the numerous tactics to the tricky problem with my colleagues as well as experts in the field made the experience a very productive one. Our supervisors also provided us with appreciated comments and improvements, and consultations with them about the project also assisted me to truly appreciate international trade law more holistically.

- Tanvi Rahim (Batch of 2018-23)