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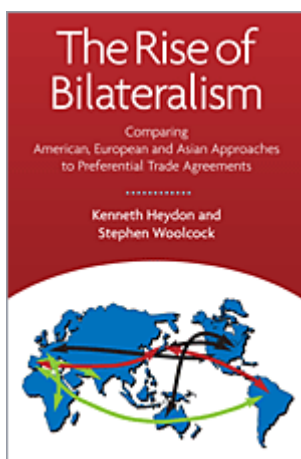
UNU - CRIS

COMPARATIVE REGIONAL INTEGRATION STUDIES



14-5-2009

**New Book "The Rise of Bilateralism: Comparing American, European and Asian Approaches to Preferential Trade Agreements" by Kenneth Heydon & Stephen Woolcock (UNU Press)**



As multilateral negotiations become increasingly complex and protracted, preferential trade agreements have become the centrepiece of trade diplomacy, pushing beyond tariffs into deep integration and beyond regionalism into a web of bilateral deals, raising concerns about coercion by bigger players.

This study examines American, European and Asian approaches to preferential trade agreements and their effect on trade, investment and economic welfare. It draws on the rich field of theoretical works, but also fills a gap in literature by examining in detail the actual substance of agreements negotiated and envisaged.

With bilateralism in trade driven by foreign policy, environmental and social concerns, as well as market access objectives, the key question today is not preferential agreements or multilateralism, but how the various negotiating forums interact. This volume argues that preferential agreements can complement the multilateral system but only if that system is strong enough to continue to reduce barriers to trade and strengthen rules and so limit the distorting effects of bilateralism.

**Kenneth Heydon** is a visiting fellow at the London School of Economics and a former deputy director for trade at the OECD. **Stephen Woolcock** is a lecturer at the London School of Economics and associate research fellow at the United Nations University—Comparative Regional Integration Studies in Brugge, Belgium.

Please click [here](#) to consult or order the book.

**Call for Papers: The EU in International Affairs II - GARNET Conference**



The Institute for European Studies (IES) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB), the Institut d'études Européennes (IEE) at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), the United Nations University programme for Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS), and Egmont - Royal Institute for International Relations invite papers for the second

GARNET Conference on 'The European Union in International Affairs'. The conference will be the second in the series, following on from the successful 2008 conference <http://www.ies.be/conference2008/>.

**Deadline for paper proposals: 18 September 2009**

**Notification of acceptance: 23 December 2009**

**Submission of full papers to chairs and discussants: 31 March 2010**

Please submit your paper abstract (300 words max., text only) or panel proposal according to the instructions on the conference website at <http://www.ies.be/conference2010> , which will be active by the beginning of August 2009. Proposals for entire panels of four or five speakers are welcome, but individual abstracts must adhere to the same requirements as other papers, and will be subject to the standard peer-review process. The organisers reserve the right to adapt and amend panels to the conference programme if necessary.

Limited travel grants will be available to cover part of the cost of participation of junior researchers from disadvantaged countries.

Details will be available on the conference website, which will also contain further relevant information, including registration fee, etc.

Please click [here](#) to know more about this conference.

### New Online Working Papers

W-2009/9: *Measuring Trade Regionalisation: The Case of Asia* by **Lelio Iapadre and Francesca Tironi**

W-2009/8: *New Regionalisms Post-Epas: What Prospects for Sustainable Development in Africa & the Caribbean?* by **Timothy M. Shaw**

W-2009/7: *Dynamique, thèmes et acteurs: des relations entre la Communauté Andine et l'Union Européenne* by **Giovanni Molano Cruz**

W-2009/6: *Global Transparency: Fighting Corruption for a Sustainable Future* by **Charles Sampford**

W-2009/5: *The Asean Community: Dilemma's of a Shallow Trading Club* by **Jacques Pelkmans**

W-2009/4: *Una Salida al Mar para Bolivia y el 'Acta de Lovaina': Una Experiencia de Negociacion Informal* by **Jorge Magasich**

W-2009/3: *Globalizacion Asimetrica y Desarrollo Precario: Una Perspectiva Andina* by **Edgard Moncayo Jiménez**

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