



SOUTH ASIA INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW NETWORK'S
THIRD BIENNIAL CONFERENCE
on
**FOOD SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL LAW: CRITICAL AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES**
19th – 20th December 2022
Kochi, Kerala, India

കോച്ചി, കേരളം, ഇന്ത്യ
19^{ആം} - 20^{ആം} ഡിസംബർ 2022

South Asia International Economic Law Network (SAIELN) is hosting its third biennial conference, as part of the curriculum under the WTO Chairs Programme, in association with the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), Kochi, Kerala.

Date: Monday, 19th December 2022 – Tuesday, 20th December 2022.

Venue: Room No. B401, 3rd Floor, Academic Block, National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS) campus, HMT Colony, North Kalamassery, Kalamassery, Kochi, Kerala 683503



Monday, 19th December 2022

10:00 am – 10:50 am IST INAUGURAL SESSION

10:00 am – 10:05 am WELCOME REMARKS

Prof. James J. Nedumpara
Professor and Head, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, India Chair, WTO Chairs Programme, and Co-Chair, South Asia International Economic Law Network

10:05 am – 10:15 am VICE CHANCELLOR’S ADDRESS

Prof. K. C. Sunny
Vice Chancellor, National University of Advanced Legal Studies



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10:15 am – 10:25 am INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Prof. Colin Picker

Professor of International Law and Executive Dean, Faculty of Business and Law, University of Wollongong

10:25 am – 10:30 am SIEL PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS

Prof. Peter Van den Bossche

Director of Studies, World Trade Institute, University of Bern, Professor of International Economic Law, Faculty of Law, University of Bern, and President, Society of International Economic Law

10:30 am – 10:45 am KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Mr. B.V.R. Subrahmanyam

Former Commerce Secretary, Government of India

10:45 am – 10:50 am CONCLUDING REMARKS

Prof. Leila Choukroune

Professor of International Law, University of Portsmouth & Director, University of Portsmouth Thematic Area in Democratic Citizenship and Co-Chair, South Asia International Economic Law Network

BREAK: 10:50 am – 11:05 am IST

11:05 am – 12:05 pm IST PANEL SESSION ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE IN THE WTO: IN SEARCH OF A PERMANENT SOLUTION TO FOOD SECURITY

SPONSORED BY THE CENTRE FOR WTO STUDIES

CHAIR: **Dr. Sachin Sharma**
Associate Professor, Centre for WTO Studies

PANELLISTS: **Mr. Siraj Hussein** (Virtual)
Senior Visiting fellow, International Economic Relations (ICRIER), Former Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Former Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing

Dr. Elumalai Kannan
Associate Professor, Centre for Studies of Regional Development, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Ms. Prachi Singhal (Virtual)
Deputy Director, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Prof. J.P. Singh
Professor, International Commerce and Policy in Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University, USA

12:05 pm– 1:35 pm IST SESSION I: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW PERSPECTIVES ON FOOD SECURITY [PAPER PRESENTATION]



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CHAIR: **Prof. Colin Picker**
Professor of International Law and Executive Dean, Faculty of Business and Law,
University of Wollongong

PRESENTERS:

- Prof. M. Gandhi**, Vice President, Indian Society of International Law and Former Dean, VIT Law School, Chennai
The Coordination of International Human Rights Law and International Economic Law in Achieving Food Security
- Ms. Rashmi Venkatesan** Assistant Professor of Law, National Laws School of India University, Bengaluru
Domesticating International Economic Laws: Food Security and Farmers Rights in India (Virtual)
- Dr. Anjani Singh Tomar**, Associate Professor of Law and Head, Academic Affairs, Gujarat National Law University, **Dr. Saira Gori**, Assistant Professor of Law, Gujarat National Law University, and **Mr. Vikram Amrawanshi**, Teaching and Research Associate (Law), Gujarat National Law University
India's Public Stockholding Policy vis-a-vis WTO Rules: Is it Abiding by De Minimis Limit?
- Ms. Sunanda Tewari**, Consultant (Legal), Centre for Trade and Investment Law and **Ms. Manya Gupta**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law
Right to Regulate under the WTO Agreements: The Differential Interpretations and its Application to Food Security
- Ms. Vishakha Srivastava**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for WTO Studies and **Mr. Ashutosh Kashyap**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law
Sustainable Food Systems and the SPS Agreement
- Ms. Amandeep Kaur Bajwa**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law and **Mr. Pranav Narang**, Research Associate, Department of Commerce
Tracing the Metamorphosis of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Vis-À-Vis Sustainable Trade Practices in Food, Plants and Animals

DISCUSSANT: **Prof. Markus Wagner**, Associate Professor, University of Wollongong

LUNCH: 1:35 pm – 2:35 pm IST

2:35 pm– 4:05 pm IST SESSION II: FOOD SECURITY: EXPERIENCE IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD [PAPER PRESENTATION]

CHAIR: **Prof. Suresh Nanwani**
Professor in Practice, School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University, United Kingdom

PRESENTERS:

- Ms. Mafruz Sultana**, PhD Candidate, South Asian University
Effect of Armed Conflict on Food Security: A study of Bangladesh



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2. **Mr. Tonny Raymond Kirabira**, PhD Candidate, University of Portsmouth
Assessing the impact of Chinese Agricultural Investments on Socio-Economic Rights in Uganda
3. **Dr. Kalim Siddique**, Senior Lecturer in Economics, Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics
Food Security and the Challenges of Globalisation
4. **Ms. Rajeshwari Dasgupta**, PhD Candidate, Jadavpur University
Women, Food Security, and the Pandemic in Rural and Peri-Urban Areas of West Bengal (Virtual)
5. **Ms. Viola Nabawanda**, Lawyer and Project Assistant, Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity
The Impact of Climate Change on the Right to Access to Food Within the East African Community (Virtual)
6. **Ms. Imjot Kaur**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment law and **Mr. Arnav Sharma**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law
The North and South of Food Insecurity: International Financial Institutions, Global Food Crisis and TWAIL

DISCUSSANT: **Dr. Sachin Sharma**, Associate Professor, Centre for WTO Studies

BREAK: 4:05 pm – 4:25 pm IST

4:25 pm– 6:00 pm IST SESSION III: INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON FOOD SECURITY [PAPER PRESENTATION]

CHAIR: **Prof. James J. Nedumpara**
Professor and Head, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, India Chair, WTO Chairs Programme, and Co-Chair, South Asia International Economic Law Network

PRESENTERS:

1. **Prof. David Orden**, Professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and **Dr. Lars Brink**, Independent Agricultural Policy Advisor & Associated Faculty, Global Issues Initiative (GII), Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE) at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Revising the WTO Measurement of Agricultural Price Support to Resolve the Impasse on Public Stockholding (forthcoming Trade, Law and Development, Winter Issue 2022) (Virtual)
2. **Prof. Colin Picker**, Professor of International Law and Executive Dean, Faculty of Business and Law, University of Wollongong
Pandemic and Post-Pandemic Supply Chain Crises Impacts on Food Security: The Role of International Trade Law
3. **Prof. Markus Wagner**, Associate Professor, University of Wollongong
Cultivated Foods Meet International Trade – An Uneasy, but Necessarily Budding Relationship
4. **Ms. Krishna Bhattacharya**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law and **Ms. Mahima Ahuja**, Cost Accountant (TRAC), Centre for Trade and Investment law
Food Security and Trade: Public Stockholding Through the Lens of Economics and Law



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5. **Ms. Vasundhara Dhar**, Undergraduate Student, Birla School of Law, Birla Global University
Harnessing Free Trade Agreements for Sustainable Agricultural Practices (Virtual)

DISCUSSANT: **Prof. Kenneth Holland**, Professor & Dean (Academics, Research & International Affairs), Jindal Global Law School, O.P Jindal Global University (Virtual)



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Tuesday, 20th December 2022

10:00 am– 11:40 am IST SESSION IV: FOOD SECURITY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
[PAPER PRESENTATION]

SPONSORED BY THE CENTRE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW

CHAIR & SPECIAL ADDRESS: **Mr. Yashvir Singh**

Economic Advisor, Department of Commerce, Government of India

PRESENTERS:

1. **Prof. Sairam Bhat**, Professor of Law and Centre Coordinator, Centre for Environmental Law Education, Research and Advocacy, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru and **Ms. Aparna S.**, Research Fellow, Centre for Environmental Law Education, Research and Advocacy, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru
Agriculture and Climate Policy: Evolving Resource Equity in Food Security (Virtual)
2. **Dr. Sujata Kar**, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Kakinada and **Prof. Zillur Rahman**, Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorke
Stepping Stones towards Food Security in India: An Overview of India's Trade Policy (Virtual)
3. **Ms. Ayushi Singh**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law and **Mr. Ritvik R. Rai**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law
Weighing the Gains of Sustainability Chapters in Free Trade Agreements – Impact on Traditional Practices and Indigenous Groups
4. **Mr. Ahamed Ashiq Shajahan**, Research Fellow, Centre for WTO Studies and **Ms. Lakshmi Swathi Ganti**, Research Fellow, Centre for WTO Studies
Promoting food security through public stockholding – Indian perspective and challenges at the WTO
5. **Ms. Devika Ramachandran**, PhD Candidate, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi
Seed Regulation Laws in India and its impact on Farmers Rights with reference to Seed Regulation Bill, 2019
6. **Ms. Bhavnish Kaur Chhabda**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law and **Mr. Advaith Rao**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law
Conceptualising cultural aspects of food as a facet of food security: a rights-based approach

DISCUSSANT: **Prof. James J. Nedumpara**, Professor and Head, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, India Chair, WTO Chairs Programme, and Co-Chair, South Asia International Economic Law Network

BREAK: 11:40 am – 12:00 pm IST



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12:00 pm– 1:00 pm PANEL SESSION ON CIVIL SOCIETY PERSPECTIVES ON FOOD SECURITY: TAKING POLICIES FROM GLASS-FRONTS TO GRASSROOTS

CO-ORGANISED BY THEMATIC AREA IN DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP, UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH AND CUTS INTERNATIONAL

CHAIRS: **Prof. Leila Choukroune**
Professor of International Law, University of Portsmouth & Director, University of Portsmouth Thematic Area in Democratic Citizenship

Dr. Veena Vidhyadharan
Fellow, CUTS International Jaipur

PANELLISTS: **Mr. Chatura Rodrigo** (Virtual)
Founder, Green Space Consultancies, Gampaha, Sri Lanka

D. Dhanuraj, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Centre for Public Policy Research, Kerala

Dr. Nitya S. Ghotge (Virtual)
Executive Secretary, Anthra, Pune

Dr. Partha J. Das (Virtual)
Head, Water, Climate and Hazard Division, Aaranyak, Guwahati

Ms. Mansi Shah
Program Manager for the Future of Work Activities, Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)

Mr. P.V Satheesh (Virtual)
Director, Deccan Development Society [Millet Sisters Network]

LUNCH: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm IST

2:00 pm– 3:45 pm SESSION V: LITIGATING FOOD SECURITY [PAPER PRESENTATION]

CHAIR: **Mr. Ajit Joy**, Advocate, High Court of Kerala and former Programme Manager, Country Manager, United Nations Office on Drug and Crime

PRESENTERS:

- Mr. Madhav Mallya**, Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School, O.P Jindal Global University
International Investment Law and Post-Colonial Land Re-Distribution Disputes
- Ms. Smrithi Bhaskar**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law and **Ms. Shana Sharma**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law
Protecting Food Security under International Investment Agreements
- Mr. Shinya Ito**, PhD Candidate, University College London



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The Definition of Conflict between WTO Law and the Right to Food: Untangling the Confusions and Reformulating the Analytical Perspective (Virtual)

- 4. **Prof. Jaya Vasudevan**, Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute for Foreign and International Private and Business Law, at the Heidelberg University, and Professor, Hidayatullah National Law University
Food Security & Arbitrating Disputes: Conflicts & Compromises
- 5. **Ms. Clarisse Delaville**, DCL Candidate, McGill Faculty of Law
A Regime Complex for Food Security: An Analysis of International Law Regulating International Food Assistance (Virtual)
- 6. **Ms. Ronjini Ray**, Consultant (Legal), Centre for Trade and Investment Law and **Mr. Jamshed Siddiqui**, Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law
Measures impacting food security and its justification under WTO law – An assessment of unilateral sanctions impacting the global food crisis

DISCUSSANT: **Prof. Colin Picker**, Professor of International Law and Executive Dean, Faculty of Business and Law, University of Wollongong

3:45 pm– 4:45 pm PANEL SESSION ON THE ROLE OF BLUE ECONOMY IN PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY

SPONSORED BY THE CENTRE FOR BLUE GOVERNANCE, UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH

CHAIR: **Prof. Pierre Failler** (Virtual)
Professor, Faculty of Business and Law, Director, UNESCO Chair in Ocean Governance, Centre for Blue Governance, University of Portsmouth

PANELLISTS: **Dr. He Yuan**
Research Fellow for UNESCO Chair in Ocean Governance, Centre for Blue Governance, University of Portsmouth

Dr. John Virdin (Virtual)
Director, Ocean and Coastal Policy Program, Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment & Sustainability, Duke University

Prof. Eddie H. Allison (Virtual)
Executive Director, Science and Research, WorldFish

Dr. Marleen Schutter (Virtual)
Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Washington, EarthLab and WorldFish

Prof. Achille E Assogbadjo (Virtual)
Professor, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

Prof. Flora Chadare (Virtual)
Professor, Université Nationale d'Agriculture, Benin



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Dr. Joice V. Thomas

Chief Executive, Network for Fish Quality Management & Sustainable Fishing (NETFISH), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Government of India

4:45 pm – 5:15 pm CLOSING SESSION

4:45 pm – 4:50 pm WELCOME REMARKS

Prof. Leila Choukroune

Professor of International Law, University of Portsmouth & Director, University of Portsmouth Thematic Area in Democratic Citizenship

4:50 pm – 4:55 pm DISTINGUISHED ADDRESS

Prof. Suresh Nanwani

Professor in Practice, School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University

4:55 pm – 5:10 pm VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey

Common Election Commissioner, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, and Former Food and Public Distribution Secretary, Government of India.

5:10 pm – 5:20 pm SPECIAL ADDRESS

Dr. Werner Zdouc

Director, Knowledge and Information Management, Academic Outreach and WTO Chairs Programme Division, and Former Director, WTO Appellate Body Secretariat

5:20 pm – 5:25 pm CONCLUDING REMARKS

Prof. James J. Nedumpara

Professor and Head, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, India Chair, WTO Chairs Programme, and Co-Chair, South Asia International Economic Law Network

HIGH TEA: 5:25 pm – 5:50pm

*Links for the sessions will be shared with the participants joining virtually 24 hours in advance.



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FOOD SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

The world’s population is projected to increase to 9.8 billion by 2050. However, 828 million people – close to 10% of the world’s population – still face hunger. The number of undernourished people grew by as many as 150 million. After steadily declining for a decade, world hunger is once again on the rise and SDG 2 (zero hunger) is unlikely to be met by 2030.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the acute problems of hunger and malnutrition. The Russia-Ukraine conflict has compounded this problem. Increasing occurrences of extreme climate events have disrupted global supply chains, further impeding progress towards food security, especially in low-income countries. With food and energy prices increasing, the situation in both developing and developed countries is fast deteriorating.

This alarming reality hides a complex paradox – there is more than enough food produced in the world to feed everyone on the planet, and yet 10% of the world population continues to suffer from hunger. Small farmers, herders, and fishermen who produce about 70% of the global food supply remain vulnerable to food insecurity. About 14 million children under the age of five suffer from acute malnutrition.

According to the FAO, “food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life”. A person is ‘food insecure’ when he lacks regular access to enough safe and nutritious food for normal growth and development– whether due to unavailability of food and/or lack of resources to obtain food.

While several instruments recognize and reiterate the right to food as a human right under international law, it is most comprehensively addressed under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). Article 11.1 of the ICESCR recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living, which includes access to “adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions”. The Declaration of Nyéléni, signed in 2007, introduced the concept of “food sovereignty”. Food sovereignty, according to the Declaration, is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems.

For countries working towards food security, food sovereignty requires utilizing state-of-the-art technologies, scientific knowledge of agricultural systems, and nutrition to improve the methods of production, conservation, and distribution of food. Agricultural innovation becomes imperative to increase productivity and security to the global food supply. For instance, farm automation, including automated harvesters, drones, autonomous tractors, seeding, and weeding can help bring together agricultural machinery, computer systems, electronics, chemical sensors, and data management to reduce labour time, promote higher yields, and efficient use of resources. Similarly, indoor vertical farming, through hydroponics or aeroponics, enables producers to get healthier and bigger yields by controlling variables such as light, temperature, water, and sometimes, carbon dioxide levels.



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It is vital to develop sustainable, inclusive, healthy and resilient food systems. Technologies must be developed to reduce the environmental and climate impact of the production, aggregation, processing, distribution, consumption and disposal of food, forestry and fishery products. It is important to build resilience in production and supply chains to increase agricultural productivity. Food systems must be climate-friendly and reduce Green House Gases. Policy action in this area can help prevent food loss and control food waste. A global food system that is more productive, more inclusive of poor and marginalized populations, environmentally sustainable and resilient, and able to deliver healthy and nutritious diets to all is critical to realising the goal of food security.

Modern trade agreements have attempted to further this cause through dedicated chapters on the promotion of sustainable food systems. At the WTO, the importance of this objective was highlighted in the Twelfth Ministerial Conference in Geneva with the Ministerial Declaration on Responding to Modern Sanitary and Phytosanitary Challenges. The Declaration highlighted the importance of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in supporting sustainable agricultural growth and agricultural practices that aid in addressing climate change and global food insecurity.

Aside from agriculture, it is equally important to promote ‘Blue Economy’ and transition to sustainable fishing practices, which protect ocean health and marine ecosystems against threats such as acidification, pollution, ocean warming, eutrophication and fishery collapse. Countries must work towards sustainable management of ocean resources, carbon sequestration, coastal protection, and waste disposal to realise SDG 14 relating to conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

While sound policy making is critical in achieving these goals at the national level, international economic law can help in establishing a legal framework for trade that prioritises food security and work towards improving, not only food production and access where it is scarce, but also improving economic as well as sustainable access to food by creating jobs, raising income and ensuring the livelihood of farmers.

At the WTO, discussions on food security began in the early 2000s and became part of the 2001 Doha Ministerial Conference. The first significant breakthrough came during the 2013 Bali Ministerial Conference where Members adopted the Ministerial Decision on Public Stockholding for Food Security Purposes. Following the 2013 Bali Ministerial Conference, the 2015 Nairobi Ministerial Conference abolished agricultural export subsidies to prevent trade distortions in an effort to end hunger and achieve food security.

The Twelfth Ministerial Conference brought forth other important outcomes on food security and sustainable food practices. First, the Ministerial Declaration on the Emergency Response to Food Insecurity reinforced Members’ commitment to take concrete steps to improve the functioning and long-term resilience of global markets for food and agriculture. Second, the Ministerial Decision on the Exemption of WFP Food Purchases from Export Prohibitions or Restrictions requires Members to not impose export prohibitions or restrictions on foodstuffs purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by the WFP in view of rising hunger levels. Third, the Ministerial Decision on the Agreement



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on Fisheries Subsidies represents a historic milestone in the promotion of sustainability by prohibiting harmful fisheries subsidies that have depleted the world's fish stocks.

Against this backdrop, the SAIELN's third biennial conference aims to provide a platform for experts, policymakers, lawyers, academics, economists, and civil society partners to exchange views on the multifaceted challenges of food security and offer innovative legal and policy solutions to address them.

An abstract of 500 words should be submitted no later than 20 November 2022. The results shall be announced by 25 November 2022. The final paper (6000-8000 words) should be submitted by 31st March 2023. Submissions should be sent to - southasiaiel@gmail.com.

The Organising Committee may publish selected articles in a special issue of a reputed international journal.

THEMES AND TOPICS FOR THE CONFERENCE:

1. The Co-ordination of International Human Rights Law and International Economic Law in Achieving Food Security
2. The Right to Food and International Economic Law
3. The Right to Food, the Right to Health, and Law and Policy: National and International Interactions
4. The Danger of Climate Change to Food Security
5. Ensuring Food Security in Future Pandemics and International Conflicts
6. Promoting Food Security through Public Stock Holding
7. Sustainable Fishing Practices and the Preservation of Fish Stock for Food Security
8. Role of Blue Economy in Promoting Food Security
9. Innovation in Agriculture to Tackle Food Security – We Particularly Welcome Interdisciplinary Approaches
10. Harnessing Free Trade Agreements for Sustainable Agricultural Practices
11. The Role of International Organisations and Institutions in Promoting Food Security (and Insecurity) – We Welcome Critical Approaches
12. Are International Trade and Investment Rules Fuelling Hunger? How to Identify Legal and Policy Gaps and Obstacles?
13. Trade and Food Distribution: Identifying the Gaps in the Interactions Between National and International Norms and Regulations
14. International Dispute Settlement – How States Protect and Litigate their Rights to Regulate Food Production and Distribution
15. Litigating Hunger: How to Provide Remedies to Affected Populations?
16. Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Global Food Trade Policy and Regulation – We Welcome Political Economy Perspectives
17. Civil Society Perspectives on Food Security, Law, and Policy – We particularly Welcome Lived Experienced and Grassroot Expertise



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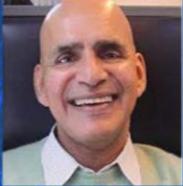




We welcome critical and interdisciplinary perspectives, South Asian, and global cases studies and approaches.

THE PICKER-NANWANI PRIZE

The Picker-Nanwani Prize will be awarded to the best paper submitted as part of the conference (by 31 March 2023). The best paper will also be published in a reputed international journal.



Professor Nanwani has more than 30 years of experience in international financial institutions, including Advisor at the Asian Development Bank and Counsel at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. He is currently Professor in Practice at Durham University, School of Government and International Affairs, United Kingdom. In addition to being a patron of SAIELN, Professor Nanwani is a member of the Executive Council of the Society of International Economic Law (SIEL). He sponsors the Baetens-Caiado prize for the best essay in the Postgraduate and Early Professionals/Academic Network of SIEL (PEPA/SIEL) conference.

Professor Picker has more than 20 years of experience in teaching International Economic Law (IEL) and is currently serving as the Executive Dean, Faculty of Business Law, University of Wollongong in addition to being a patron of SAIELN. He was one of the Co-Chairs of the Founding Committee of SIEL and served as the Founding Executive Vice President of the organization from 2007 to 2014. Professor Picker facilitated the creation of numerous regional IEL networks, including the Asian IEL Network, RED Latin America, the African IEL Network, and most recently the SAIELN.



THE PICKER-NANWANI FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

The Picker-Nanwani Financial Assistance Fund will provide financial assistance to candidates short-listed for paper presentations at SAIELN’s Third Biennial Conference on 19th and 20th December 2022. The fund will cover transportation, accommodation and dining expenses of candidates in need of financial aid.

Interested participants may email organisers at southasiaiel@gmail.com requesting for financial assistance under the Picker-Nanwani Financial Assistance Fund. Requests for financial assistance will be assessed on need basis by the co-chairs of SAIELN and the members of SAIELN’s organizing committee.



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