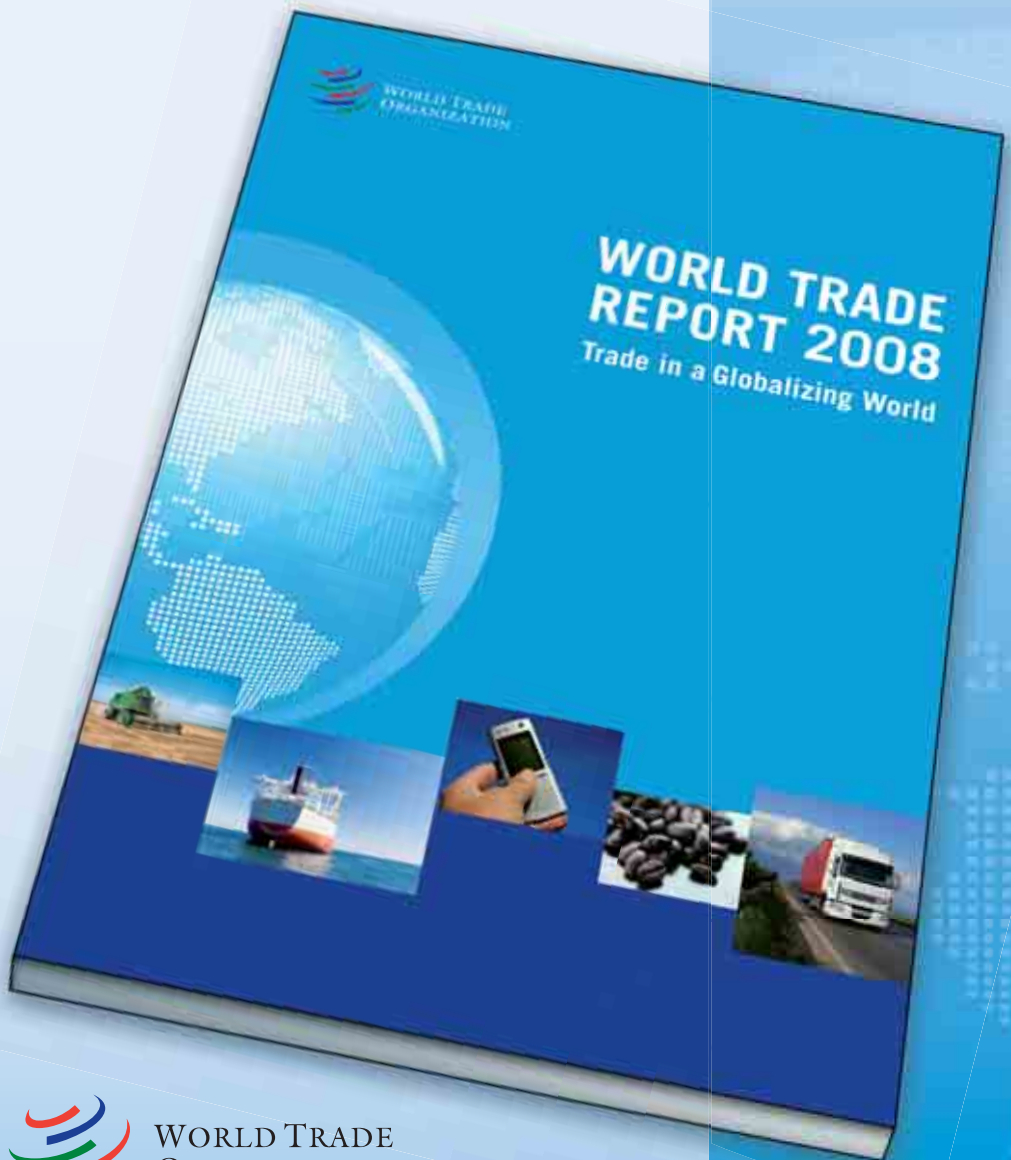


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turn to the *World Trade Report*



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World Trade Report

The *World Trade Report* is an annual publication that aims to deepen understanding about trends in trade, trade policy issues and the multilateral trading system. Prepared by the Economic Research and Statistics Division of the World Trade Organization, it provides a unique insight into the latest trends in global trade.

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International Trade

International trade is integral to the process of globalization. Over many years, governments in most countries have increasingly opened their economies to international trade, whether through the multilateral trading system, increased regional cooperation or as part of domestic reform programmes. Trade and globalization more generally have brought enormous benefits to many countries and citizens.



Trade has allowed nations to benefit from specialization and to produce more efficiently. It has raised productivity, supported the spread of knowledge and new technologies, and enriched the range of choices available to consumers. But deeper integration into the world economy has not always proved to be popular, nor have the benefits of trade

and globalization necessarily reached all sections of society. As a result, trade scepticism is on the rise in certain quarters.

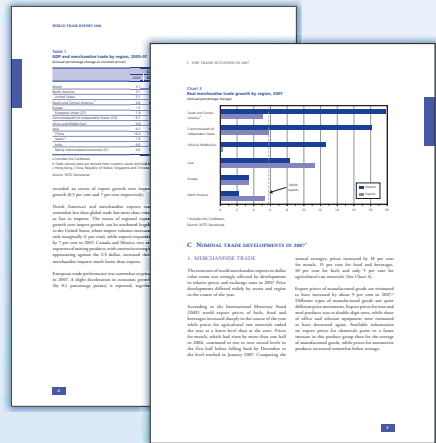
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World Trade Net - Business Briefing

Trade in a Globalizing World

The theme of this year's Report is "Trade in a Globalizing World". The Report provides a reminder of what we know about the gains from international trade and highlights the challenges arising from higher levels of integration. It addresses a range of interlinking questions, starting with a consideration of what constitutes globalization, what drives it, what benefits does it bring, what challenges does it pose and what role does trade play in this world of ever-growing inter-dependency.

The Report asks why some countries have managed to take advantage of falling trade costs and greater policy-driven trading opportunities while others have remained largely outside international commercial relations. It also considers who the winners and losers are from trade and what complementary action is needed from policy-makers to secure the benefits of trade for society at large. In examining these complex and multi-faceted questions, the Report reviews both the theoretical gains from trade and empirical evidence that can help to answer these questions.

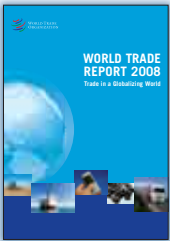


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“Much of what is immediately obvious in the WTO context concerns the on-going negotiations under the Doha Development Agenda. By bringing these negotiations to a close, we can contribute to better market access and improved rules governing multilateral trade, thus increasing opportunities to gain from global integration.”

Pascal Lamy, WTO Director-General



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