

EAST ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW & POLICY PROGRAMME  
ASIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL LAW  
FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

*Seminar*

**Hong Kong in a World of Acronyms:  
East Asia and the WTO, TPP, TISA, IMF, FSB,  
G20 and QEIII**

**Jonathan T. Fried**

*Chairman, WTO Dispute Settlement Body  
Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the WTO*

**Wednesday, 18 December 2013, 12:00 - 1:00 pm  
Room 723, 7/F Cheng Yu Tung Tower, The University of Hong Kong**

***Chair: Professor C.L. Lim***

As the global economy adjusts to slower growth, and governments and the private sector alike continue to repair their balance sheets, liberalizing trade and reforming the financial sector are increasingly seen as key to unlocking sustainable growth. On each front, China and its East Asian neighbours play a major role – in regional and global supply chains, in the availability of sovereign and private credit, and as a source and destination for foreign investment. China, Japan and others are actively engaged in one or more of a wide range of trade initiatives, ranging from current WTO negotiations to the Trans-Pacific Partnership, trilateral China-Japan-Korea and ASEAN discussions to such sector-specific proposals as agreements on trade in services (TISA) to Information Technology Products (ITA-II) or Environmental Goods. And on the financial front, China and Japan have both been engaged in the IMF's focus on spillover effects of monetary policies, at the Financial Stability Board on international regulatory reforms, and at the BIS on capital requirements. Is Asia's more active engagement merely adding another voice to what some see as a growing spaghetti bowl of trade confusion, financial imbalances and regulatory incoherence? Or can we look forward to Asia pointing the way to greater global harmonization in rules and oversight? What does all this mean for the HK private sector and its advisors? Jonathan Fried will share his thoughts on these and related issues in an off-the-record roundtable discussion.



**Jonathan T. Fried**, as Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the WTO, Mr Fried plays a key role in multilateral trade negotiations, currently serving as Chair of the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body. He previously served as Canada's Ambassador to Japan; Executive Director for Canada, Ireland and the Caribbean at the IMF; Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister; Senior Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of Finance and Canada's G7 and G20 Finance Deputy. Mr. Fried has held various positions with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, including Associate Deputy Minister; Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade, Economic and Environmental Policy; Chief Negotiator on China's WTO accession; Director General for Trade Policy; and chief counsel for NAFTA. He serves as Vice-Chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Trade and Investment. Formerly Professor of Law at the University of Toronto and Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University and the University of Ottawa, he has spoken and written widely on international trade, finance and development issues. He received his BA and LL.B. from the University of Toronto and LL.M. from Columbia University.

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