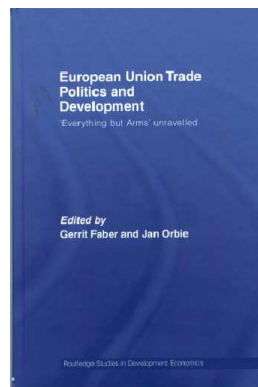


European Union Trade Politics and Development

Everything But Arms Unravelled

Edited by Gerrit Faber and Jan Orbie



The 'Everything But Arms' (EBA) regulation of the European Union (EU) has been hailed as a groundbreaking initiative for developing countries. Since 2001 EBA grants an almost completely liberalized access to the European market for products from the least-developed countries (LDCs). It quickly became the most symbolic European trade initiative towards the Third World since the first Lomé Convention in the 1970s.

Given its central position in EU discourse and its continuing relevance for the European and international trade agenda, this book attempts to present a thorough analysis of EBA. 'European Union Trade Politics and Development' contains contributions from a diverse range of scholars who collectively present a comprehensive picture of EBA. This volume also contains a broader analysis of EU trade politics towards the South.

Therefore the book is more than a case study: it deals with agricultural policy reform, it looks at Europe's evolving relationship with ACP countries (ex-colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific), and it links EBA with Europe's negotiating position within the WTO. Contributions to this volume also consider the continuing negotiation leverage of EBA within the Doha Development Agenda, make comparisons with United States trade policy vis-à-vis the LDCs, and focus on the economic effectiveness of EBA in terms of its stated objectives as well as on the institutional skirmishing within the EU.

This volume demonstrates that, although EBA may have had a very modest impact on development, its influence on internal and external EU politics has been significant. This impact is likely to continue in the coming years.

As such, the book is excellent reading for those studying the relationship between trade and development as well as all those with an interest in the politics and economics of the EU.

Routledge, 2007, 272 pages.

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