



Qatar WTO Chair Launch
Navigating Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital and Industrial Economy

Date: Sunday, November 23, 2025

Venue: HBKU Auditorium, Minaretein Building, Education City, Doha

8.45am – Registration

9am – Welcome remarks

9.30-10am – Speech by **H.E. Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani**, Minister of Commerce and Industry, State of Qatar

10-10.30am – Coffee break

Panel 1 – 10.30am-12pm

International Trade Law and the Digital Economy: The Role of Middle Powers

Todd J. Friedbacher, Partner, Sidley, Geneva

Mihalis Kritikos, Secretary of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies, European Commission

Hamad Al-Mohannadi, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI)

Marta Soprana, Digital IR Project Associate, LSE IDEAS

Kehinde Olaoye, Assistant Professor, College of Law, HBKU

Jack Rossbach, Assistant Professor of Economics, Georgetown University in Qatar

Chair: **Alexis Antoniadis**, Professor and Director of International Economics, Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q)

12-1.30pm – Lunchtime Talk Featuring **H.E. Dr Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Sayed**, Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs, State of Qatar

Chair: **Susan L. Karamanian**, Dean, College of Law, HBKU

sponsored by Sidley



Panel 2 – 1.30-3pm

New Industrial Policies and Foreign Subsidies Regulation: A New Frontier for International & Regional Economic Law?

Saleh bin Abdullah Al-Mana, Head of the International Cooperation and Trade Agreements Department, MOCI, State of Qatar

David Roney, Partner, Sidley, Geneva

Diego Iribarren, Senior Advisor to the Minister, MOCI, State of Qatar

Asma Al-Khulaifi, Associate Legal Counsel, Qatar Investment Authority

Ahmed Al-Sulaiti, Lecturer, College of Law, HBKU

Elena Cima, Lecturer, University of Geneva

Chair: **Nofe Al-Suwaidi**, Director for International Cooperation and Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State of Qatar

Closing session – 3-3.30pm

Harish Iyer, Head, WTO Chairs Programme Unit, WTO

Henry Gao, Professor of Law, Singapore Management University Yong Pung How School of Law & Member, Academic Advisory Board, WTO Chairs Programme