

XXXV  
TECMUN

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World Trade  
Organization

XXXV TECMUN  
Sessions Schedule

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**Wednesday, march 16**

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Registry         | 8:00 – 9:00 h.   |
| Opening ceremony | 9:00 – 10:00 h.  |
| Recess           | 10:00 – 10:30 h. |
| First session    | 10:30 – 12:30 h. |
| Recess           | 12:30 – 13:00 h. |
| Second session   | 13:00 – 15:00 h. |
| Meal             | 15:00 – 16:00 h. |
| Third session    | 16:00 – 18:00 h. |

**Thursday, march 17**

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Master conference | 8:30 – 9:30 h.   |
| Recess            | 9:30 – 10:00 h.  |
| Forth session     | 10:00 – 12:30 h. |
| Recess            | 12:30 – 13:00 h. |
| Fifth session     | 13:00 – 15:00 h. |
| Meal              | 15:00 – 16:00 h. |
| Sixth session     | 16:00 – 18:00 h. |

**Friday, march 18**

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Seventh session  | 8:00 – 9:30 h.   |
| Recess           | 9:30 – 10:00 h.  |
| Eight session    | 10:00 – 12:00 h. |
| Recess           | 12:00 – 12:30 h. |
| Nineth session   | 12:30 – 14:30 h. |
| Meal             | 14:30 – 16:00 h. |
| Closing ceremony | 16:00 – 18:00 h. |

XXXV TECMUN  
**General Agenda**

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*Secretary General: Vanessa Arroyo Jerez*

*Chief of General Coordination: Paola Ayelén Hernández Hernández*

**ASAMBLEA GENERAL**

*Subsecretary General: Andrea Michelle Martínez Lozano*  
*Coordinating Supervisor: Anahí Amairany Pérez Escobedo*

**Reunión de Alto Nivel para la Asamblea General**

*President: Gerardo Calderón Huerta*

- A) Estrategias para abordar las políticas aplicadas dentro de la región Xinjiang que constituyen una violación directa al Derecho Internacional por parte de la República Popular China
- B) Medidas para evitar el empleo de diamantes de sangre como fuente de financiamiento de grupos guerrilleros en la región africana

**Third Committee on Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Issues**

*President: Anael Oliveros Aguilar*

- A) Strategies to cope with the various social constraints that people with disabilities face in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean
- B) Strategies to approach the current sanitary and humanitarian crisis in the region of Cuba with emphasis on the acquisition of the citizen's basic human needs

**Sexta Comisión Jurídica de la Asamblea General**

*President: Ixtli Zenit Ramírez García*

- A) Estrategias para fortalecer el derecho internacional humanitario con el objetivo de regular y limitar la proliferación, así como la creación de Sistemas de Armas Letales Autónomas en Asia y Europa
- B) Medidas para garantizar la seguridad y asistencia a grupos kurdos desplazados debido a la ofensiva de las fuerzas militares turcas y sus aliados generada a raíz del Conflicto Turco-Kurdo con énfasis en el cumplimiento de las normas ius in bello y el derecho internacional de los derechos humanos

### **International Criminal Police Organization**

*President: Emilio Díaz López*

- A) Strategies to decrease bioterrorism activities, focusing on the potential use of biological weapons and enforcing biosecurity measures in Africa
- B) Measures to dismantle and control the impact caused by organized crime groups in the region of the Caucasus, focusing on the decrease of violence and security of the population

### **Histórica Organización de los Estados Americanos**

*President: Regina Montserrat Villalpando Camberos*

- A) Estrategias para detener el ingreso ilegal de armas a los Estados Unidos Mexicanos provenientes de Estados Unidos de América mediante el clandestino “Operativo Rápido y Furioso” con énfasis en su relación con el narcotráfico mexicano (2013)
- B) Estrategias para concretar el fin de la intervención estadounidense en la República de Panamá como consecuencia de la “Operación Causa Justa” en búsqueda de la revocación del mandato de Manuel Antonio Noriega (1990)

### **CONSEJO ECONÓMICO Y SOCIAL**

*Subsecretary General: Maria Fernanda Casillas Monrroy*  
*Coordinating Supervisor: Cinthya Paulina Chávez Hernández*

### **Commission on the Status of Women**

*President: Valeria Loera Gómez*

- A) Strategies to eradicate threats, harassment, and violent attacks against female journalists and activists in Latin America and the Caribbean
- B) Mechanisms to reduce maternal mortality due to the inaccessibility of medical supplies in Sub-Saharan Africa

### **Comisión de Prevención del Delito y Justicia Penal**

*President: Abraham Alejandro Carlos Mendoza*

- A) Estrategias para garantizar la justicia penal a menores de edad detenidos por el delito de robo de hidrocarburos en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, teniendo en cuenta la Ley General de los Derechos de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes
- B) Medidas para atender la crisis en la región de Crimea, derivada de las acusaciones entre Ucrania y la Federación de Rusia por el financiamiento de grupos extremistas, considerando el Convenio internacional para la Represión de la Financiación del Terrorismo

### **Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia**

*President: Ana Lourdes García Nila*

- A) Estrategias para frenar la esclavitud sexual infantil en la región asiática con énfasis la asistencia a las víctimas

B) Acciones para salvaguardar a los niños y niñas sin tutores a consecuencia de la pandemia del Covid-19 en los Estados Unidos de América

### **Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados**

*President: Chiara Trejo Infante*

A) Acciones para prevenir las discriminación y las barreras sistemáticas de los refugiados, solicitantes de asilo e inmigrantes en el Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte a partir del proceso del Brexit

B) Medidas para realzar la respuesta de la Unión Europea ante la crisis de refugiados provenientes del Emirato Islámico de Afganistán

### **World Trade Organization**

*President: José Pérez Jiménez*

A) Measures to limit the economic repercussions of the trade conflict between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China focusing on the European Union

B) Actions to digitalize the economy of Latin America through the employment of regulations for electronic commerce

## **AGENCIAS ESPECIALIZADAS Y ORGANISMOS REGIONALES**

*Subsecretary General: Javier Márquez Saucedo*

*Coordinating Supervisor: Andrea Lizet Martínez Olvera*

### **Organización Marítima Internacional**

*President: Mariana Cortés Gallardo*

A) Medidas para prevenir la contaminación de los mares y océanos a causa de los derrames de buques tanque pertenecientes a la industria petrolera, enfocado en el Golfo Pérsico

B) Acciones para impulsar una transición energética segura y eficiente en la industria naval mediante el uso de nuevas tecnologías, combustibles alternativos e infraestructuras en Latinoamérica y el Caribe

### **Convención de las Naciones Unidas Contra la Corrupción**

*President: Sofía Victoria Solís Uribe*

A) Medidas para la regulación de la crisis política de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela a consecuencia de la inestabilidad del régimen y el debilitamiento del sistema democrático con énfasis en el movimiento sindical

B) Medidas para contrarrestar la criminalización de defensores de derechos humanos con énfasis en comunidades indígenas de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos

### **Liga de Estados Árabes**

*President: Elena Ramírez Sandoval*

- A) Estrategias para confrontar al grupo extremista Wilayat Sináí a fin de prevenir inestabilidad política en la República Árabe Egipto
- B) Medidas para contrarrestar los ataques a médicos en zonas de conflicto, con enfoque en la República Árabe Siria

**Security Council**

*President: Diego Márquez Sánchez*

- A) Actions to restrain the Russian Federation's military expansion on Republic of Belarus' territory as a result of borderline disputes with the Republic of Poland
- B) Measures to limit the military development of the People's Republic of China focusing on the tensions with Taiwan

**International Court of Justice**

*President: Elías Dávila Martínez*

- A) Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Armenia v. Azerbaijan)
- B) Dispute over the Status and Use of the Waters of the Silala (Chile v. Bolivia)

*“If we lay a strong enough foundation, we’ll pass it on to you  
We’ll give the world to you, and you’ll blow us all away”  
-Lin Manuel Miranda*

For the present, the moment you read this,

The word revolution can be defined as a rapid, profound, and generally violent change that can occur in anything or anyone, although sometimes, in our daily lives, we tend to forget this last and important subject. What do you call a revolution? Maybe the first ideas that come to our mind come from what we know as an event of change that historically marked a region, however, if we break this concept down further, we will find a word that I hope will resonate in you and this is nonconformity.

There are few moments in life when the noise of an injustice overcomes the calm of our daily lives, whether by brief words or scandalous actions, none of us is exempt from feeling nonconformity. The difference lies in what we decide to do with this feeling, our first impulse is to complain, to find more and more factors that justify this discomfort and feed our need to complain. The second is more complex, as it requires courage and bravery, which is our action. And it is this little recognized event that we call revolution, that spark of change that leads us to fight for what we believe is right and to defend with every word, thought and movement what we are passionate about. Whether big or small, the dimension of your revolution can only be measured in its impact and in how many brave people like you have decided to take that first step towards change. I hope that after these three days, having faced the challenges of a debating room, you will give yourself the opportunity to draw inspiration from the world around you. Whether it is from friends, strangers, the committee you were part of or even the street you walked down, being the voice of change knows no boundaries and no place. Think about what moves you, because it is perhaps that brief moment of introspection when we truly understand why we change, and that is all we need to start our own revolution.

This is my last chance to reaffirm to you that a model of nations is not your greatest challenge, but only a tool to begin to challenge your fears. You will find your true challenges every day and then, and only then, will you decide what it is that drives you to fight for what you believe in. Three days are not enough to change the world, but I hope they were enough to make you feel inspired.

TECMUN is a different journey for all of us, but as someone dear to me once said "this journey lasts more than three days; it perpetuates in the minds and in the soul", although mine has been full of folders, badges, unexpected laughter, tears, songs, an office, hundreds of zooms, friendships, chaffis, inspiration, debates, uncertainty, love, fear, change and learning, today I leave all of this in your hands. I hope your journey takes you to a destination of success and that you continue to be the hope of many, just as you have been mine for the past three years.

The words that changed the course of my life came from a room like the one you are about to meet, so today I share them with you: *you are doing well, keep going*. I hope you remember that you are capable of more than you think, and that even when the only constant is that nothing remains, you find in these six words a small impulse to live a new day.

Thank you TECMUN for changing my life, this last trip will always be in my heart.

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Vanessa Arroyo Jerez  
Secretary General for the  
XXXV TECMUN

*“I want to be defined by the things that I love. Not the things I hate. Not the things I’m afraid of. Not the things that haunt me in the middle of the night. I just think that you are what you love.”*  
-Taylor Swift

Participant,

Lately I have been thinking nonstop about beginnings and endings. I admire the idea of tearing out the last page of a book, thus leaving a conclusion open to a million possibilities. And if I could tear out the last page of this chapter, I would certainly do so without a moment of hesitation. Instead, I find myself writing it, while admitting to myself that no matter how much time I got, no amount of hours, minutes, or seconds could ever be enough. That is the effect TECMUN has on a person. Some might see it as three days of tedious debate, or an eye-opening journey, but what I truly think is that it is completely ineffable.

If I had to define it, I would say that TECMUN has been two things for me. The first is a danger zone; it has forced me to speak up, to overcome myself, but most of all, it has helped me get over my insecurities and anxiety, and for that I will be eternally grateful. Ironically, it has also been my safe place, where I walked into a small office that would become one of my favorite locations in the whole world, where I could always expect my greatest smiles to emerge (even over simple words like "fried fish"), where I met the absolute finest friendships the universe could have bestowed upon me, where I found the person I wanted to be and have strived to look her in the eye when a mirror is in front of me, where I created the voice I have spent my life craving for, where I was given the opportunity to share and leave a part of my soul in the people I had the pleasure of guiding, and where I discovered the reason and purpose why I am here. I tend to say that I entered TECMUN to run, literally. Although, in hindsight, I think there was some allegory in that statement, especially when I so mistakenly say that I never got to do it. I know now that I ran and never stopped doing it. I think I just changed the course. I got tired of trying to get away from everything behind and in front of me. I stopped wondering if I would ever get out of the woods and learned that there are monsters that are just trees. Around and around I went, until the little UNICRI coordinator found the Chief of General Coordination.

The XXXV edition of TECMUN is one that was lost due to the unpredictability of the world around us. It is the last I will be a part of, just as it was the first. I like to think that both of us found our way at exactly the right time, just as I am convinced that TECMUN is the place I was meant to be, and that it was a higher-level life force carefully setting up the events that led to me filling that first register, all building up to this very moment. I hope you feel that way when you come out of your last session and wish to repeat the experience until that decision is no longer in your power, for my only request to you is that you make of TECMUN whatever you want to but a memory. Carry it in the lessons you learn, in the relationships you forge, in the questions it has planted for you, and in the lives you have the opportunity to change. I know I will, just as I will carry it as the most beautiful incident I could have come across. There are insufficient words in a language to say goodbye to the place I have called my home for the past couple of years, so I will only say thank you. Thank you, Coordination, you are my pride, my passion, my heart, and the best thing that has ever been mine. And thank you, TECMUN, I had the time of my life fighting dragons with you.

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Paola Ayelén Hernández Hernández  
Chief of General Coordination for the  
XXXV TECMUN



“El miedo es inevitable, tengo que aceptarlo, pero no puedo permitir que me paralice. Temer es normal, pero debemos aprender a gestionar el miedo de modo que no nos impida vivir y adaptarnos.”  
-Isabel Allende

Para el presente,

Desde que tengo memoria he tenido un gran interés por la historia, pasé toda mi infancia viendo series históricas y documentales, me interesaba saber el porqué de nuestro presente. Me considero una persona con un gran interés académico, pero la primera vez que mi maestra de primaria comenzó a enseñarnos el origen científico del ser humano algo cambió en mí. Comencé a generar una extraña sensación que me incitaba a leer por adelantado los temas que más tarde íbamos a aprender en clase. De repente ya no solo se trataba de una materia que tenía que cursar para cumplir con mis obligaciones, se había convertido en mi pasión. En la secundaria comencé a ampliar mis conocimientos y a empezar a ver las cosas desde un punto de vista internacional, mi profesor hacía de sus clases más dinámicas e interesantes para las personas de mi edad.

La historia universal sin duda llegó para cambiar mi vida y con ello empezaron mis participaciones en los modelos de naciones unidas. Aún recuerdo la primera vez que me subí a un podio representando a Guatemala en el comité de la Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Equidad de Género y el Empoderamiento de la Mujer, sinceramente no sabía lo que hacía ahí, me había preparado con un mes de anticipación para ese momento y todo lo que tenía en mi mente se borró. Personalmente puedo decir que fué una de las peores experiencias de mi vida, me sentí la persona más humillada del planeta, pero comprendí que algún día podría lograr lo inimaginable. Al año siguiente lo volví a intentar, con un poco más de experiencia pude demostrar mi crecimiento y la capacidad de afrontar cualquier adversidad. Si bien en tres días que dura la simulación pueden pasar muchas cosas, descubrí que los sueños, esperanzas y acciones hablan. Entendí que solo necesitas armarte de valor y pronunciar unas cuantas palabras haciendo que todos giren la vista hacia ti, para comprender que tu voz puede mover masas.

Comencé la preparatoria teniendo una idea errónea de lo que quería para mi futuro, sin embargo decidí continuar contribuyendo en la organización del modelo de naciones unidas que un día cambió mi vida. Conforme pasó el tiempo, me descubrí a mí misma, descubrí que mis pasiones siempre habían sido mis habilidades. La investigación se convirtió en algo de gran relevancia en mi vida y de repente empecé a generar gran interés por los temas jurídicos que respecta al país y sus relaciones en el ámbito internacional. Cambie toda la perspectiva que tenía del mundo y de las personas que se relacionan dentro de él, me adentré en un camino de constante cuestionamiento hacia mis ideales, y me dí cuenta que está bien cambiar de opinión y rectificar a cada paso que des.

Siempre es difícil despedirse, créanme cuando les digo que trate de posponer lo más posible el momento en el que tuviera que redactar esta carta, pero ha llegado la hora de cerrar una de las etapas más significativas en mi vida. Si bien me gustaría haber dejado más en este modelo, considero que después de más de 4 años logré dejar mi alma y gran parte de mi corazón aquí. Tú que estás leyendo esto, te invito a que permitas que esta experiencia te transmita algo más. TECMUN es y siempre será una herramienta para enfrentar tus miedos y un hogar para aquellos que están dispuestos a alcanzar la grandeza en cualquiera de sus formas. Espero que lo que para mí es una despedida, para ti sea un inicio.

Gracias a todos los que me inspiraron, prometo algún día lograr inspirar a otra persona.

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Maria Fernanda Casillas Monroy  
Subsecretaría General para el  
XXXV TECMUN

*“All we have is this moment, tomorrow is unspoken, yesterday is history”*

- *Katy Perry*

Ambassador,

Welcome to the World Trade Organization. I hope you find it as interesting and challenging as I do. If this is your first time in TECMUN, I would like to thank you for your trust in the model, and more important in this committee. If it is not your first time, I am glad to see that you liked the experience and that you are here again. Either way, congratulations, you are someone that is not afraid of new things and certainly not afraid of challenges either. In this moment you have the opportunity to solve a world-class problem that is affecting the economy of numerous countries while representing one of those countries, which would be considered an impossible task for many people, but I know that you are completely capable of doing it. However, TECMUN is not only about solving the topics and getting into a resolution paper, but it is also a place to learn; out of all the beautiful and useful things TECMUN can offer you, the most valuable ones are the knowledge and the experience you get from it. You can think of TECMUN as a door that leads to a vast world of possibilities that can help you achieve anything you want in life, and now that you are about to go through this door, you are on your way to be an agent of change and be part of the transformation this world needs.

To conclude, there is nothing more that I can say apart from reaffirming my gratitude for choosing this committee and encouraging you to be the best ambassador this committee has ever seen.

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José Pérez Jiménez

President of the World Trade Organization for the

XXXV TECMUN

# Background

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The World Trade Organization (WTO) is in charge of establishing and supervising the compliance of international rules for trading under the established by the WTO Agreements, moreover, it is also a forum that allows negotiation between governments as well as the resolution of disputes and conflicts related to trades and commerce. Founded on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1995, the organization has its origins on the General Agreements on Tariff and Trade (GATT) which contemplated international agreements and regulations for the trading of goods and was constituted by 128 contracting parties. When the organization was established it started to consider the trade of services and intellectual property as well; the contracting parties became members of the organization and, nowadays, it has 164 members and 25 observers. The WTO is not an organ nor a specialized agency of the United Nations, nonetheless, both organizations maintain a close relationship that is ruled by the Arrangements for Effective Cooperation with other Intergovernmental Organizations-Relations Between the World Trade Organization and the United Nations. These arrangements authorize and encourage the participation of the organization in the General Assembly and in the Economic and Social Council meetings along with a particular collaboration between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the organization.

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## Faculties

- Handle trade disputes and be a forum for trade negotiations: The organization can handle any dispute regarding interest conflict or disagreement between the negotiating parties, in this case the WTO must initiate a problem solving process.
- Monitor National Trade Policies: This faculty authorizes the organization to supervise the member states trade policies and ensure that they follow the WTO agreements regulations.

- Cooperate with other international organizations
- Provide technical assistance and training for developing countries: The World Trade Organization has the means to assist developing countries in topics such as international commerce and in the implementation of a multilateral trading system.
- The organization operates in divisions, the principal ones are the following:
  - Accessions division: Assists in negotiations between member states and entities that request accession to the organization (WTO, n.d.).
  - Economic Research and Statistics division: Monitors and analyses economic development.
  - Information Technology Solutions Division: It is in charge of the correct operation of the IT infrastructure of the organization.
  - Trade policies Review Division: Is responsible for supervising how the member state's policies are carried out.

# Topic A

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Measures to limit the economic repercussions of the trade conflict between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China focusing on the European Union

## *Introduction*

Trade conflicts are economic disputes between nations regarding exports and imports, usually caused by barriers of trade<sup>1</sup> imposed between them. These barriers can be established by a nation as tariffs, quotas, or taxes, usually believing trade agreements are unfair and do not benefit their economy. Commercial wars take place when the country affected by new tariffs or quotas retaliates by imposing more barriers of trade. These barriers are aimed to lower the number of imports from the other country, or make that country's products more expensive (Corporate Finance Institute, 2019).

The United States of America and The People's Republic of China have been in a commercial dispute since 2018. It started when the former president of the United States Donald Trump, 25 % tariffs were imposed on \$34 billion USD to Chinese imports, retaliated by the same percentage of tariffs on the same sum of money to American goods by the Chinese government. The barriers of trade imposed only continued to escalate, up to the point where Huawei Technologies, a Chinese company, was banned from The United States of America. Many truce agreements have been signed during this period, but yet the conflict does not count with a solution, other nations worldwide are being affected by this trade war, not sure if helping to seek for an agreement between both countries or looking for other strong alliances in different nations.

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<sup>1</sup> **Barrier of trade:** A barrier to trade is a government-imposed restraint on the flow of international goods or services (Econlib, n.d.).

## *Antecedents and Context*

The trade conflict between these two countries has its origin in the end of the Second World War. The United States of America consolidated itself as a great economic and ideological power, hence, numerous American enterprises were growing and expanding. Subsequently, during the belic conflict between the Republic of Korea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the United States started to produce some equipment for its soldiers in countries like Japan, nonetheless, the main production of this equipment was still carried on in American territory (Brasó, C., 2021). This style of production originated the first Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM)<sup>2</sup> and led to economic growth on Asian countries.

This growth caused the People's Republic of China to enter the global commerce scene. The economic development eventually generated that their gross domestic product (GDP)<sup>3</sup> had a greater growth rate in comparison with the United States of America (González, J., 2020). However, it was not until 2009 when the country became one of the most important economies in the world, taking advantage of the economic crisis of 2008. In fact, this increase started to raise tensions between the two countries.

Nowadays, the conflict still remains unsolved and it has several consequences to global trade such as mistrust in the investment field. The conflict has also been discussed in the World Trade Organization forum, where there have been numerous disputes regarding this conflict, however, there are three recent and crucial cases that must be revised. The first

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<sup>2</sup> **Original Equipment Manufacturer:** Creates and manufactures equipment or systems that will be used in the final product of some enterprise (IBM Services., 2019).

<sup>3</sup> **Gross Domestic Product:** Is the total monetary or market value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period (Fernando, J., 2021).

one is, *United States — Tariff Measures on Certain Goods from China* (Case DS543), which has had a report circulated and it is currently under appeal since October 26th 2020. The second one is the *United States — Tariff Measures on Certain Goods from China II* (Case DS565) and it remains in consultation. Finally, the case of the *United States — Tariff Measures on Certain Goods from China III* (Case DS5487) which also remains in consultation. These are all complaints from the People's Republic of China about the tariffs imposed on a wide variety of Chinese goods.

### ***The European Union's perspective***

The European Union (EU) is made up of 27 members across the European Continent, it operates as a single market and ensures no barriers of trade among its members, it also looks forward to collaborating with foreign countries, seeking beneficial agreements for both parties, but always putting its members' interests first. The EU is the world's largest exporter, counting with a common market and more than 500 million consumers. Trade is a highly important activity among the European Union, "From 1999 to 2010, EU foreign trade doubled and now accounts for over 30 % of the EU's gross domestic product (GDP)" (European Union Official Website, n.d.). In addition, the United States of America is considered the biggest trading partner to the European Union, together, they take up to 40 % of the world GDP, and more than 40 % of global trade. Recent policies have been affecting the trade of steel and aluminum with The United States, affecting the 2 % of the total exports and imports between them.

On the other hand, the Union holds a close relationship with the People's Republic of China. It is its second largest partner in commercial and trade matters, even though, in this



year, it overtook the United States of America's import source for goods. The European Union holds strong relationships with both parties and, as previously stated, both are two important partners. This situation not only restrains the Union from taking a side in the conflict, but also obligates it to seek different partners in order to prevent further consequences if the commercial war continues escalating.

### ***Trade Profile of the European Union***

The European Union is one of the founders and a fundamental factor of the World Trade Organization. In fact, according to the European Parliament, more than 30 million jobs in the European Union depend on world trade. Its international trade processes, structure and patterns have been improving since technological innovation and digitalization have become a crucial part of them. Moreover, in February 2021, a trade policy review was presented, and it was named as "an open, sustainable and active trade policy" (Parlamento Europeo, 2021), which aims to set the direction of trade policy until 2030, it is an adapted policy from 2015, that will help new geopolitical<sup>4</sup> changes through the years, as well as ensure equity and sustainability, with the objective of helping world commerce transition to ecological and digital strategies. As a consequence, along with the non-existing trade barriers and acting as a whole instead of using separate trade strategies, the European Union has consolidated itself as one of the greatest world economies and trade partners.

The Union exports and imports are mainly of manufactured goods, since these products represent almost 82 % and 68 % of its total exports and imports, respectively (World

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<sup>4</sup> **Geopolitical**: connected with political activity as influenced by the physical features of a country or area. (Cambridge Dictionary, nd).

Trade Organization, 2019). In point of fact, according to the European Commission, Europe is also a substantial market for the exports of around 80 countries (2019). The US receives 18.3 % of the EU's total exports while the People's republic of China receives 10.5 %. On the other hand, the People's Republic of China holds 22.4 % and the US possesses 11.8 % of the Union's imports percentage (WTO, 2019).

The EU holds several Free Trade Agreements (FTA) <sup>5</sup>with other countries that are not belonging to the union. Since the *Brexit*<sup>6</sup>, Europe has held an FTA with The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which allows the United Kingdom to enter the European Union's market of services and investment with zero tariffs and no quotas. It has also a Comprehensive and Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada which permits a 99 % elimination of tariffs and encourages European companies and enterprises to enter the Canadian market, nevertheless, this agreement is still being reviewed by some parliaments. There is also a Comprehensive Agreement on Investment with the People's Republic of China, in which the Republic offers a fairer ground for EU companies (European Commission, 2021). The United States of Mexico, New Zealand, Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of Singapore are other countries that hold trade agreements with the Union.

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<sup>5</sup> **Free Trade Agreement:** (...) is an agreement between two or more countries where the countries agree on certain obligations that affect trade in goods and services, and protections for investors and intellectual property rights, among other topics (International Trade Administration, n.d.).

<sup>6</sup> **Brexit:** Brexit is a combination of the words "British" and "exit" coined to refer to the U.K.'s decision in a June 23, 2016 referendum to leave the European Union (Investopedia, 2021).

### ***Trade profile of the People's Republic of China and the United States of America***

The United States of America is one of the biggest economies nowadays. Its trade profile is mainly composed of manufactured merchandise imports and exports. Manufactures compose 63 % of its total exports and around 77 % of its total imports (WTO, 2020). Furthermore, 16.2 % of the exports are destined to the European Union and 17.6 % of the total imports come from there (WTO, 2020). Canada and the United States of Mexico are also major trade partners of the USA thanks to their trade agreement.

The People's Republic of China is another major economy and it holds a great variety of OEM's in its territory. The Republic's trade profile is also based on manufactured goods, 92.9 % of its exports belong to this sector as well as 59 % of its imports. The European Union is the destination for 15 % of its exports and it is the origin of around 12 % of the imports (WTO, 2020). Despite the trade war, it is important to take into account that the United States of America is still a major trade partner to the EU.

In the United States of America, there has recently been a problem in the economic and financial sector, since the pandemic of the COVID-19 changed the economic flow, given the fact that a change in the supply and demand of the goods and loss of jobs seriously impacted the economy. Whereas, in China this last year its economy has also been affected. The economic growth was 3 % less than the trimester of April, May, June, due to an immobiliary crisis and an energetic shortage. In 2021, Joe Biden, President of the United States, decided to follow the "Anti-trade" policies that the former president had, furthermore they were strengthened. By all means, the conflict is predicted to continue until next year.

## *Worldwide Consequences of the Trade War*

There has been concern and uncertainty around the trade war, since the economy has been weakened globally due to the conflicts that these two nations have been undergoing. The People's Republic of China's economic development has had a deceleration<sup>7</sup> over the years as a consequence of the conflict having lower demand and fragmentation on the flows of goods, but not only for this country, it has also been affecting its neighboring countries. The raising of tariffs made by both nations is having a negative impact on their businesses. This event also affects the currencies, specifically the Chinese Yuan, which is losing weight against the dollar.

The United Mexican States has a close economic relationship with the United States of America, hence it will not only suffer from every repercussion its neighboring country goes through, but also from higher inflation wages coming from Chinese manufactured goods. On the other hand, nations having extensive economic cooperation with the Republic of China like the Republic of Singapore could suffer from pressure to take a side in this conflict. Apart from this, nations caught up in between the dispute, like New Zealand, which has a close relation with both parties, have been placed a challenge trying to not take one's side while avoiding further issues that could be nonbeneficial to their economy. For instance, as the United States banned Chinese Company Huawei Technologies, tensions were put on New Zealand to follow its steps.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the global economy has been affected and thanks to the tensions among these nations the recovery is getting slower. By way of illustration,

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<sup>7</sup> **Deceleration:** to happen or make something happen more slowly. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

American farmers have been losing businesses due to the pandemic, and they have also lost money due to the trade conflict, given that they need Chinese merchandise to which higher tariffs or quotas were applied. Besides, technological industries like artificial intelligence (AI) development, networks, telephony and computer industry have been affected as a result of the trade barriers imposed on a great set of OEM's products. On the whole, the conflict affects the private sector as well as the public sector and generates a slow economic recovery process.

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# Topic B

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Actions to digitalize the economy of Latin America through the employment of regulations for electronic commerce

## *Introduction*

Electronic commerce (e-commerce) is defined as any type of purchase or sale of goods and services made through an electronic device (Bloomenthal, A., 2021). It has become a crucial instrument for enterprises because it has enhanced the interaction between companies and buyers, in terms of reach and affordability. This business model has had an exponential growth over the last few years due to the Covid-19 pandemic; since there have been several periods of lockdown around the world, e-commerce has given an opportunity to the institutions and enterprises to continue their economic activity as normal as possible. As previously stated, e-commerce has a wide variety of advantages, nonetheless, it entails numerous problems which cannot yet be solved due to the lack of regulations for this sector.

Having a digitized economy means that technology is constantly contributing to the country's economy, either helping the development of enterprises and institutions or creating new economic sectors related to technology (Cuesta, C., 2015). Electronic trade is essential for a digital economy because it allows the consumer to have a wider selection of goods and services as it reduces the expenses to the companies or institutions that sell them. Some of the biggest contributions from the digital economy to world trade is the possibility to execute financial transactions through technological environments and digital marketplaces<sup>8</sup>, which make merchandise and services accessible to a great deal of people around the world. In Latin America e-commerce also contributes to the generation of new jobs, in fact the industry

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<sup>8</sup> **Marketplace:** is a website or app that facilitates shopping from many different sources (Kestenbaum, R., 2017).

generated over 200,000 jobs in 2020 and helped around 2,000 Small and Midsize Enterprises<sup>9</sup>(Salazar, D., 2021).

### *Antecedents and context*

Electronic commerce originated with the exchange of documents such as orders between consumers and suppliers. In fact, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, it originated around 1948 or 1949 ordering merchandise through telex<sup>10</sup> (Zwass, V. 2019). Meanwhile, electronic shopping was invented when an English inventor named Michael Aldrich connected a modified TV to a transaction-processing computer via telephone line. This permitted a more secure data transmission, setting the foundation for modern digital commerce.

Since the creation and adoption of the Internet and the introduction of the World Wide Web<sup>11</sup> in 1999, e-commerce shifted to the Internet. With the introduction of smartphones, electronic trade and transactions via the internet became more popular internationally. Many companies operating with digital commerce were launched such as Amazon in 1995, others serving as tools for electronic payment like Paypal were established in 1998. Also, already existing ones like Apple Inc, or Google introduced online payment services.

Nowadays, with the COVID-19 pandemic, electronic commerce in Latin America had an emerging growing market. Actually, it grew by 37 % in 2020, when the pandemic

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<sup>9</sup> **Small and Midsize Enterprises:** Small and mid-size enterprises (SMEs) are businesses that maintain revenues, assets or a number of employees below a certain threshold (Liberto, D., 2020).

<sup>10</sup> **Telex:** international message-transfer service consisting of a network of teleprinters connected by a system of switched exchanges. Subscribers to a telex service can exchange textual communications and data directly and securely with one another (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2009).

<sup>11</sup> **World Wide Web:** Byname the Web, the leading information retrieval service of the Internet (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2019).

began. Many enterprises, such as *MercadoLibre* or *Rappi*, took part, sold products, and distributed them to houses. From 2020, many enterprises are joining the new and fast-growing market in Latin America. Despite the fact that Latin American e-commerce is still in its way to be a significant sector in the economy as in the regions of Asia-Pacific, North America and Europe. Although in the region the majority of the population is a digital citizen<sup>12</sup>, the economy has not been digitized. Making that transition would help the economy to have a better recovery and increase its chances of stabilizing.

### ***Electronic commerce in Latin America***

Even though many regions of Latin America were fast to adapt the internet to its system, trade via the internet had its boom in 2020, later than other regions such as Europe or North America. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many companies had to merge themselves to make transactions and operations in a remote way. Existing companies with these digital trends such as *MercadoLibre* or *Amazon* gained an important role in daily lives in Latin America. This meant a huge step for Latin American nations since its population has gained access to the World Web.

E-commerce was introduced and adopted faster than expected. In fact, electronic sales in Latin America grew by 230 % within the first weeks of the pandemic (Chevalier, S. 2021). Nonetheless, electronic commerce still represents just a small fraction of the total sales in this region in comparison with retail<sup>13</sup> sales. According to some forecasts, the positive growth

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<sup>12</sup> **Digital Citizen:** someone who is skilled in using the internet in order to communicate with others, buy and sell things, and take part in politics, and who understands how to do this in a safe and responsible way (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

<sup>13</sup> **Retail:** the activity of selling goods to the public, usually in shops (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

tendency will be sustained up to 2025 and it is expected to obtain around 160 billion dollars in sales (Misturini, E., n.d.). Helping technological innovation and development, a larger financial inclusion created through electronic commerce between low-income sectors has helped the interconnectivity in the region.

### ***Regional Difficulties and considerations***

It is noteworthy that e-commerce had been existing in the region for years. Due to the rapid and forced introduction of the business model to Latin America's "Old Economies", the region still lacks good transport and logistics infrastructure. Therefore, there is no full coverage from private delivery services, meaning inconsistencies to shipping and deliveries, affecting logistics and limiting penetration across remote areas. Apart from this, the levels of insecurity in most of the region's roads restrict the terrestrial transit of goods.

Internet connections are of poor quality and unreliable in Latin America. Actually, just 35 % of mobile users have 4G or 5G speed on their devices, which is a significant difference compared to almost 70 % in North America (Boyle, T. C. 2021). Nevertheless, the region is still an environment where digital enterprises and institutions can thrive because of the great variety of opportunities that companies can take advantage of, technologically speaking. For instance, there are some fintech<sup>14</sup> enterprises in Latin America that provide financial services. According to Fidelity International, “55 % of the population of Latin Americans has access to a financial services account or a mobile-money service provider, (...) there is an opportunity to serve more 220 million people” (Fidelity International, 2021).

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<sup>14</sup> **Fintech:** is used to describe new tech that seeks to improve and automate the delivery and use of financial services (Kagan, J., 2020).

An additional fact about financial and banking services is the limited scope these have, even though there is a regional interest in full financial inclusion<sup>15</sup>. Actually, until 2019, in the region, almost 54 % of the people did not own a bank account and just around 18 % of the total population possessed a credit card (Cabrera, C., 2019). Furthermore, a study conducted by Valora Anilitik for Grupo Sura, revealed that the three main barriers for financial inclusion in Latin America are scarce financial education, economic informality and the absence of public incentives. In spite of that, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Peru, the Republic of Uruguay and the United Mexican States hold the first four places on the global ranking of financial inclusion (2021).

### ***Regulations status and their importance***

Rules and regulations concerning e-commerce are still being developed and established around the world. Although some trade agreements observe some commerce regulations that can also be applied to an electronic environment, e-commerce requires a specific range of controls that these adapted regulations do not cover. Electronic trade involves aspects that commerce would not regularly involve, such as storing personal and financial information from the customers as well as confidential information from governments and enterprises in digital databases that are exposed to breaches in their security. The establishment of regulations is crucial because it creates a confidence environment for every party involved in the trade process, giving them legal support and security.

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<sup>15</sup> **Financial Inclusion:** means that individuals and businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs (...) delivered in a responsible and sustainable way (World Bank, 2018).



Since the adoption of the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce by the General Council of the WTO in 1998, the organization has been working under it. The programme contemplates some of the organization's organs such as the Council for trade in services, the Council for trade in goods, Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Committee for Trade and Development to revise continuously aspects such as protection of privacy, transparency, situations related to trade agreements under the established by the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade, copyright related rights and development needs of developing countries (World Trade Organization, 1998). In 2017 a working paper of the Economic Research and Statistic Revision of the World Trade Organization concerning e-commerce was published. The paper about provisions<sup>16</sup> on Electronic Commerce in Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) points out that the trade agreement between the United Mexican States and the Republic of Panama along with the Pacific Alliance are the Latin American RTAs with more provisions on e-commerce (Monterio, J. & Teh, R.).

### ***Digital economies***

Despite the greatest advances the internet has led in many nations, digital economic activities in Latin American nations still lack compared to Europe or North American continents. Many nations have gone through a digital transformation process, which refers to the adoption of technology transforming business and services (Deloitte, 2021). With the inevitable isolation the Covid-19 pandemic has provoked, remote and zero contact activities have gained popularity, possibly due to digital technology. A digital economy does not only

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<sup>16</sup> **Provision:** a statement within an agreement or a law that a particular thing must happen or be done, especially before another can happen or be done (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

facilitate remote activities and business, but also contributes to better and more stable connections among people, making the exchange of data easier.

New business opportunities have emerged with the digital transformation, nevertheless, many existing ones that failed this transition, have collapsed or been replaced. Latin American nations, often described as old or traditional economies (Amadeo, K. 2021), have not yet succeeded to adapt their economies to technology, not only leading to delays, but also to having trouble trying to catch up with digital activities, such as electronic commerce. Innovation is inevitable and the future holds more digitized economic models. Regulations, policies and a safe infrastructure in digital activities are necessary not only to ensure internet-related tasks to be more trustworthy, but also to help with the transition of traditional economic models, to more technologically advanced ones.

### ***Covid-19 pandemic effects***

Among other things, the pandemic has demonstrated that a digital transition is urgent and that a wide variety of things can be done remotely in smart devices. Many transactions have started to be made via electronic means. For instance, in 2020, the Central Bank of the Republic of Costa Rica reported 55 million transactions were made electronically. This digitalization accelerated the development of the region, and helped it to not get behind other regions, for example Europe. One of the challenges the region faces is to modernize the majority of the systems to be capable of managing and working with these new technologies.

Electronic commerce in Latin America is growing exponentially. Since the COVID-19 pandemic started, many people in the region started to shop online to avoid becoming infected. This implies that people are adapting to this way of commerce, and it is, actually,

the second fastest growing sector in this area. The United Mexican States and the Federative Republic of Brazil are the biggest markets of the region, but it does not mean that they are the highest growing. Approximately 52 million people will buy for the first time online during the pandemic, increasing the number of consumers by 30 % (Lima, A. & Ziolla, F., 2020).

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***Preambulatory Phrases***

*Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.*

|                   |                             |                           |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Affirming         | Desiring                    | Noting with deep concern  |
| Alarmed by        | Emphasizing                 | Noting with satisfaction  |
| Approving         | Expecting                   | Noting further            |
| Bearing in mind   | Expressing its appreciation | Observing                 |
| Believing         | Fulfilling                  | Reaffirming               |
| Confident         | Fully aware                 | Realizing                 |
| Contemplating     | Further deploring           | Recalling                 |
| Convinced         | Further recalling           | Recognizing               |
| Declaring         | Guided by                   | Referring                 |
| Deeply concerned  | Having adopted              | Seeking                   |
| Deeply conscious  | Having considered           | Taking into consideration |
| Deeply convinced  | Having examined             | Taking note               |
| Deeply disturbed  | Having received             | Viewing with appreciation |
| Deeply regretting | Keeping in mind             | Welcoming                 |

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***Operative Clauses***

*Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. It must be written in italics and bold.*

|                      |                            |               |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Accepts              | Endorses                   | Notes         |
| Affirms              | Draws the attentions       | Proclaims     |
| Approves             | Emphasizes                 | Reaffirms     |
| Authorizes           | Encourages                 | Recommends    |
| Calls                | Expresses its appreciation | Regrets       |
| Calls upon           | Expresses its hope         | Reminds       |
| Condemns             | Further invites            | Requests      |
| Confirms             | Further proclaims          | Solemnly      |
| Congratulates        | Further reminds            | affirms       |
| Considers            | Further recommends         | Strongly      |
| Declares accordingly | Further requests           | condemns      |
| Deplores             | Further resolves           | Supports      |
| Designates           | Has resolved               | Takes note of |
|                      |                            | Transmits     |
|                      |                            | Trusts        |