

INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT - RISKS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT?

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Abstract: Trade is considered to be one of the main pylons for the economic globalization. Through the open markets, can be efficiently improved the resource allocation, that's why goods are produced where it is most economically (newly environmentally) effective to do so. The last period of time, the international debates focus on the impact of economic growth and international trade on the environment. The objective of this study is to facilitate a better understanding of the impact of trade which can constitute only a threat for the environment, or it can also have a favorable effect on it. It aims to detect how the international organizations can contribute to the decrease of discrepancies between trade and environment policies, can make the environment and trade goals be complementary and mutually supportive, can combine the reforms in both area for finding the ways to raise incomes without compromising the environment. The paper also discusses the role of trade barriers in these issues, as the means to protect the environment or to inhibit the access for improving the new environmental technologies and environmental standards. This proposal attempts to make a constructive generalization about how environmental concerns can work through the trading system to foster or impede development, in both rich and poor countries, since all of them can not be specialized in clean industries. And, finally, this survey emphasizes that the economic growth is harmful for the environment unless the production becomes cleaner and less resource consuming at the same time, and the consumers become more willing to recycle waste instead of abandoning it.

Key words: *economic growth, environment, international trade, standards, World Trade Organization*