

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Winter 2023 Contemporary Economic Policy

Sonoma State University February-March, 2023

Host: Jon Haveman, Ph.D. National Economic Education Delegation



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National Economic Education Delegation



Vision

- One day, the public discussion of policy issues will be grounded in an accurate perception of the underlying economic principles and data.

Mission

 NEED unites the skills and knowledge of a vast network of professional economists to promote understanding of the economics of policy issues in the United States.

NEED Presentations

- Are **nonpartisan** and intended to reflect the consensus of the economics profession.



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Who Are We?

Honorary Board: 54 members

- 2 Fed Chairs: Janet Yellen, Ben Bernanke
- 6 Chairs Council of Economic Advisers
 - o Furman (D), Rosen (R), Bernanke (R), Yellen (D), Tyson (D), Goolsbee (D)
- 3 Nobel Prize Winners
 - o Akerlof, Smith, Maskin

• Delegates: 652+ members

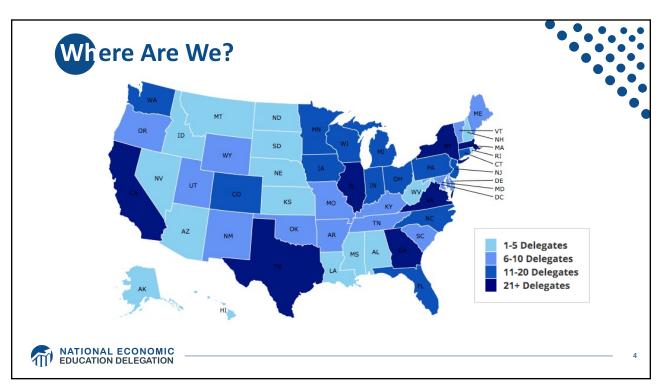
- At all levels of academia and some in government service
- All have a Ph.D. in economics
- Crowdsource slide decks
- Give presentations

• Global Partners: 48 Ph.D. Economists

- Aid in slide deck development



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Available NEED Topics Include:

- US Economy
- Healthcare Economics
- Climate Change
- Economic Inequality
- Economic Mobility
- Trade and Globalization
- Minimum Wages

- Immigration Economics
- Housing Policy
- Federal Budgets
- Federal Debt
- Black-White Wealth Gap
- Autonomous Vehicles
- Healthcare Economics



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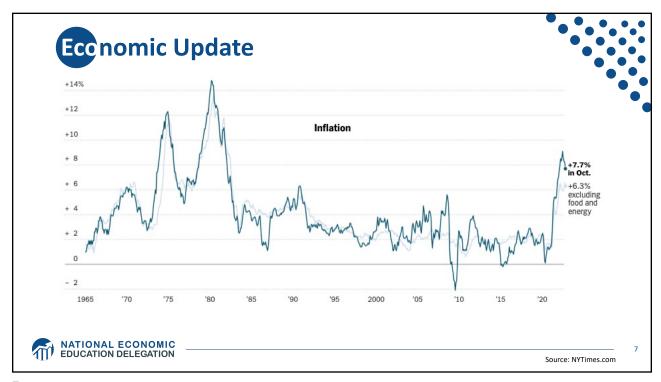
Course Outline

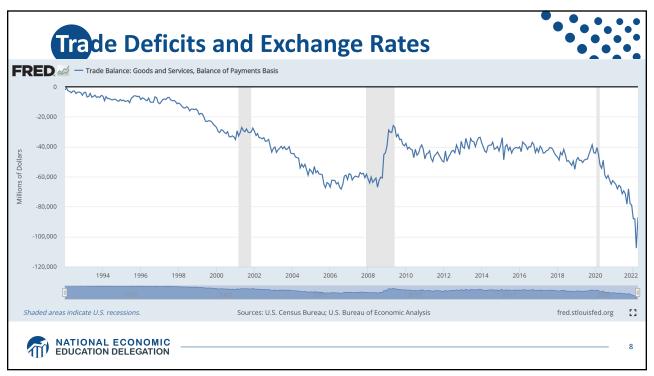


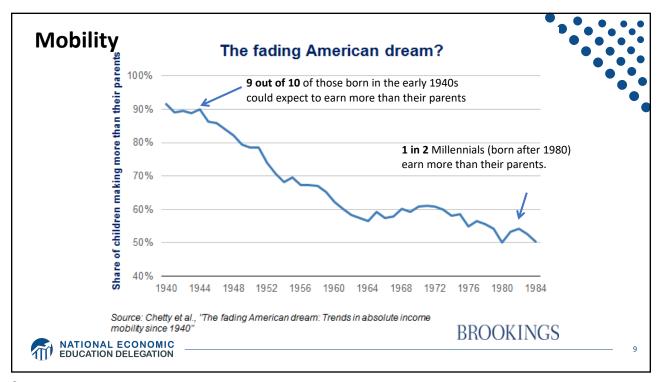
Contemporary Economic Policy

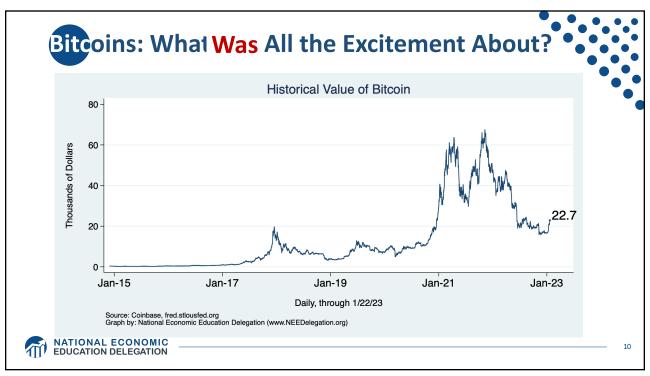
- Week 1 (2/1): Trade and Globalization (Alan Deardorff, Univ. of Michigan)
- Week 2 (2/8): US Economic Update (Jon Haveman, NEED)
- Week 3 (2/15): Trade Deficits and Exchange Rates (Alan Deardorff)
- Week 4 (2/22): Economic Mobility (Jon Haveman)
- Week 4 (3/1): Cryptocurrencies (Jon Haveman)
- Week 6 (3/8): Autonomous Vehicles (Jon Haveman)













Submitting Questions



- Please submit questions of clarification in the chat.
 - I will try to handle them as they come up.
- We will do a verbal Q&A once the material has been presented.
- OLLI allowing, we can stay beyond the end of class to have further discussion.
- Slides will be available from the NEED website tomorrow (https://needelegation.org/delivered_presentations.php)



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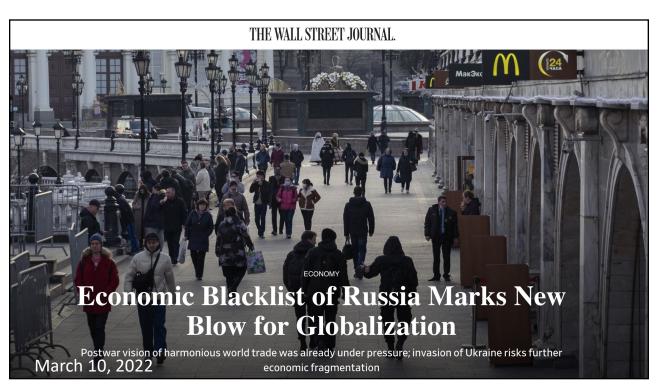
Trade and Globalization

Alan V. Deardorff University of Michigan

Presentation to Sonoma State University February 1, 2023



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Impact of Russia-Ukraine War



How Russia-Ukraine war impacts globalization

- War itself disrupts trade, especially exports of
 - Ukraine: wheat Russia: wheat, oil
- Economic sanctions by governments disrupt
 - o Financial linkages
 - o Trade
- Private companies stop dealing with Russia



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Impact of Russia-Ukraine War



• Financial sanctions by US, EU, UK, and others

- Frozen foreign-held assets of individuals, Putin and dozens of others
- Restrictions on Russia's Central Bank's use of international reserves
- Several Russian banks removed from the Swift international payments system
- Cut off many Russian banks from transactions and operations
- Long list of Russian companies banned or restricted
- Possible restrictions on Russia borrowing from IMF and World Bank



Impact of Russia-Ukraine War



Trade sanctions by governments

- Oil and other energy
 - o Germany puts Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline on hold
 - o US bans from Russia
 - o UK to phase out Russian oil by end of 2022
 - o EU to become independent from Russia by 2030
- EU bans steel imports from Russia
- US restricts exports to Russia, especially technology and military; later also to Belarus; later also luxury goods
- EU and UK impose export restrictions similar to US
- Ban on Russian air carriers by Canada, EU, US, UK
- G-7 to revoke Russia's most favored nation status
 - o Permits them to raise tariffs on Russian goods



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Russia Sanctions, Gov't

Countries		
Australia	Iceland	Singapore
Bahamas	Italy	Switzerland
Canada	Japan	Taiwan
EU	New Zealand	UK
Finland	Norway	US
France	Poland	
Germany	S Korea	

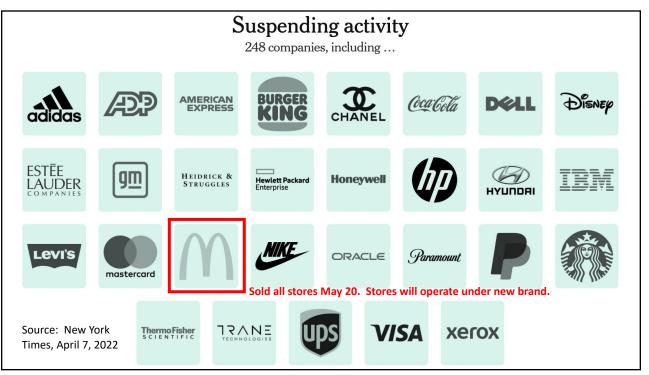
Source: Funakoshi et al, "Updated July 7, 2022" but includes from July 29

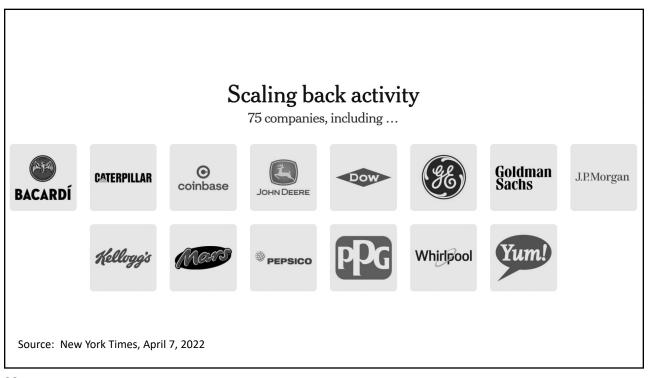




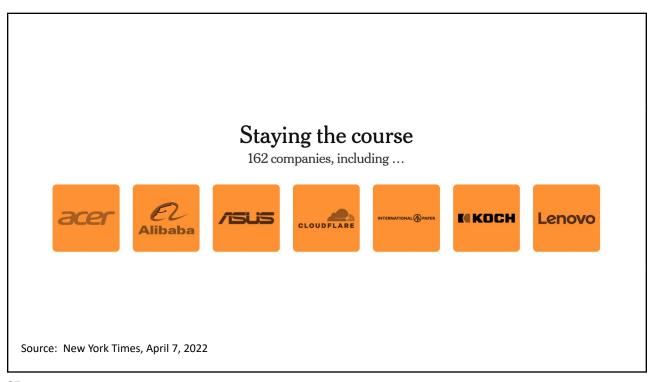


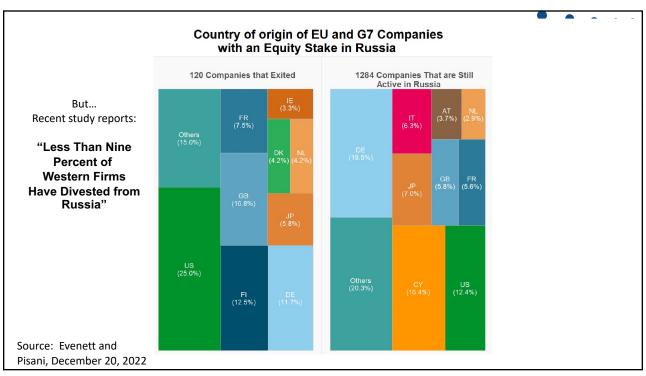












Effect of Sanctions

- Too soon to know fully
 - Will they stop Russia?
 - o Clearly no
 - o Sanctions in the past have only sometimes worked
 - Will they reduce trade?
 - o They did
 - o But Russia's role in trade is not large in most products
 - o Short-term effects are greater from the war itself



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- What is Globalization?
- Pros and Cons of Trade
- Trade Policies
- The Role of Trade Agreements & WTO (if time)





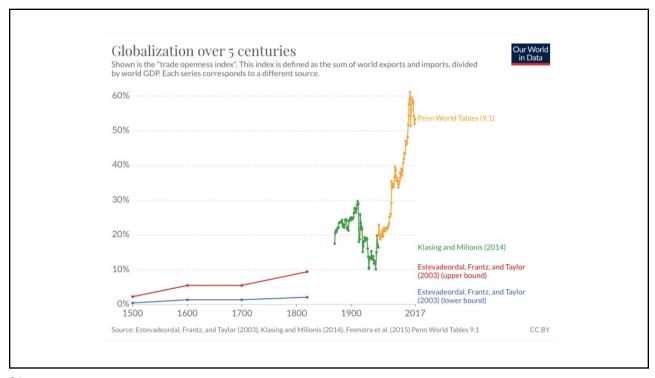
- Growth over time of many economic interactions between countries
 - Trade
 - Global Value Chains
 - Foreign Direct Investment
 - Financial Flows
 - International Travel
 - Migration
- I will focus here on trade

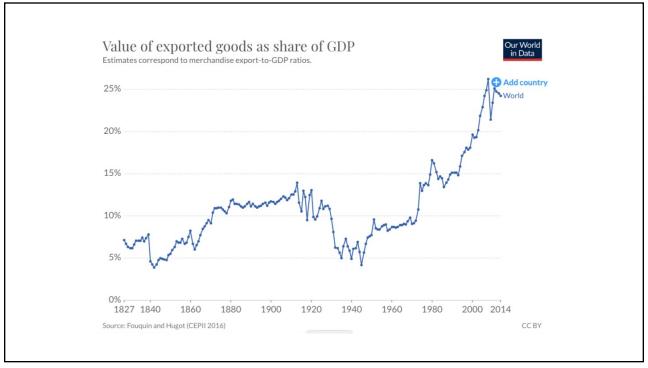


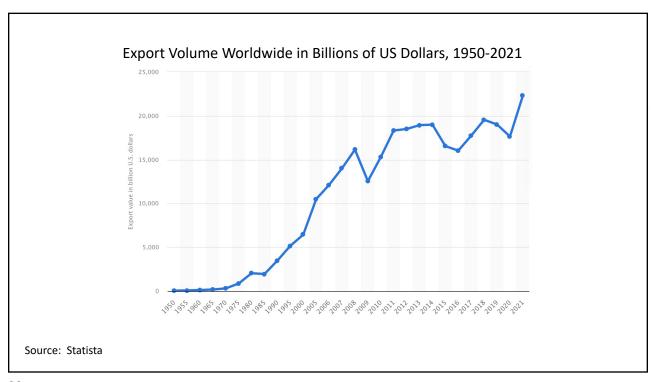


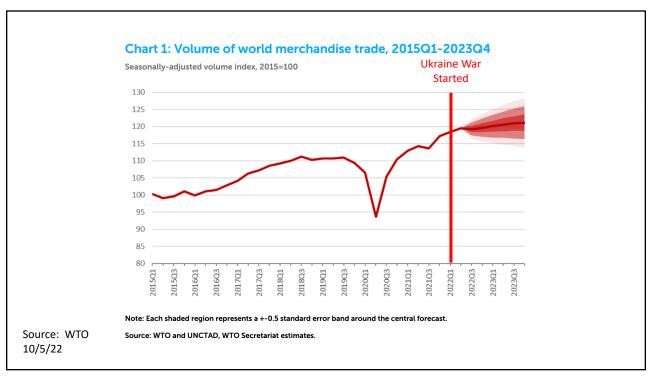




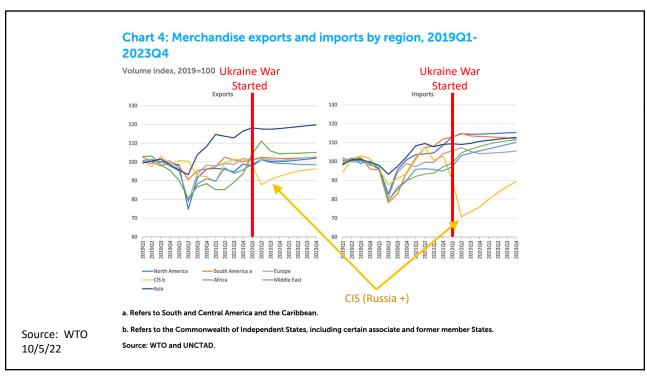
















Global Value Chains



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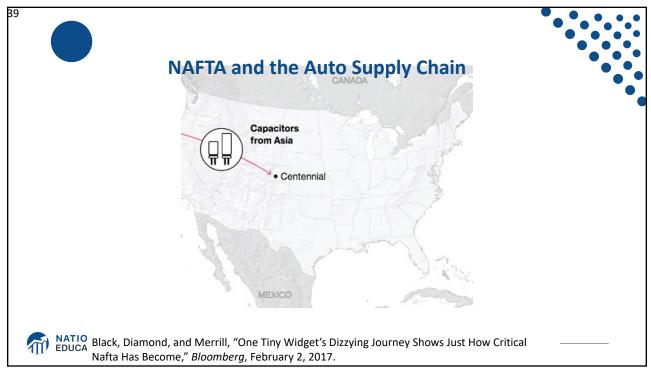
Effects on Economies

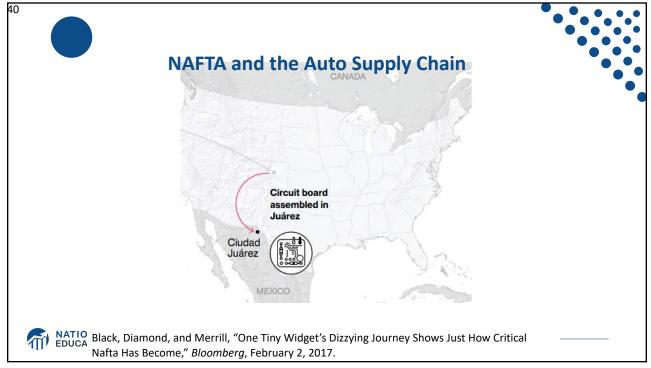


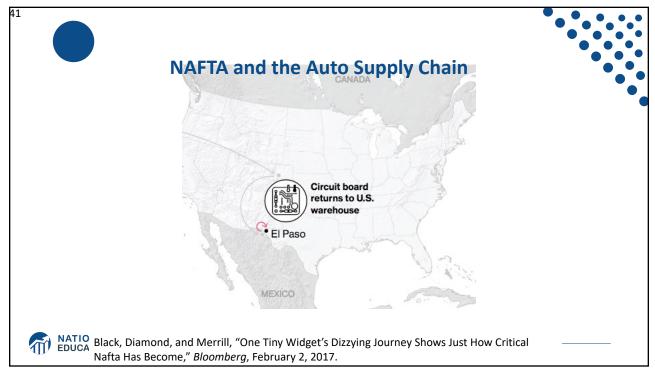
Supply Chains

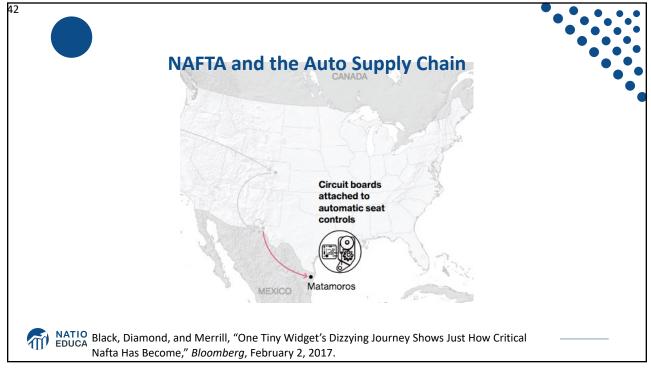
- Globalization has created long and complex international supply chains

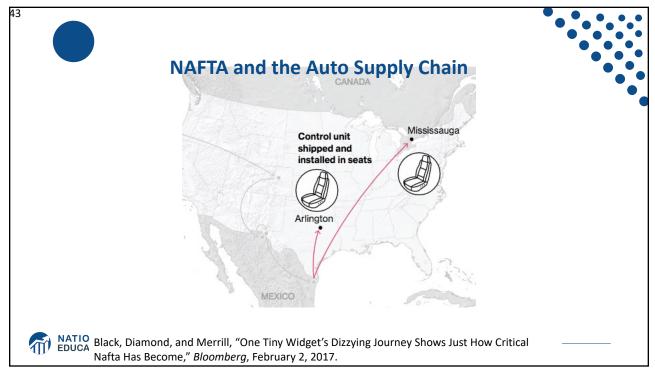


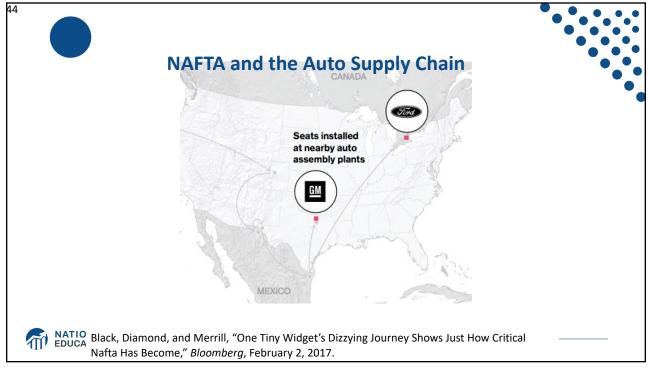


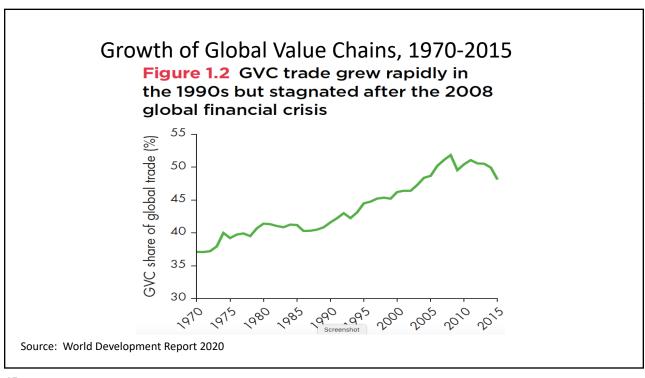


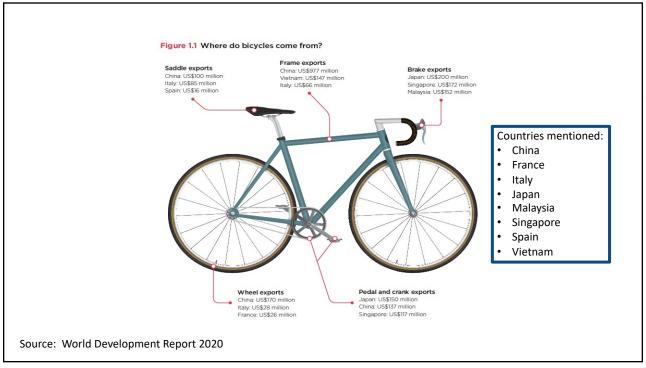


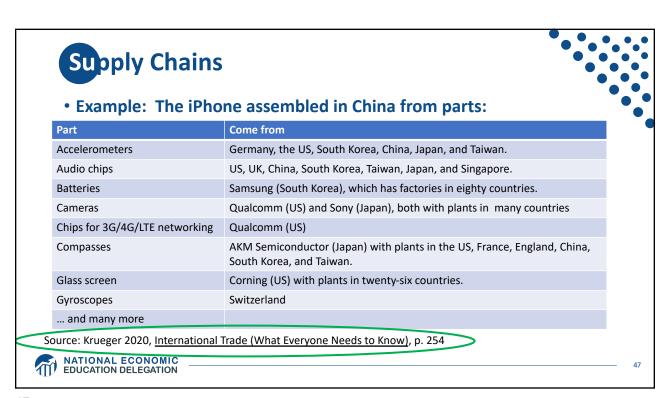


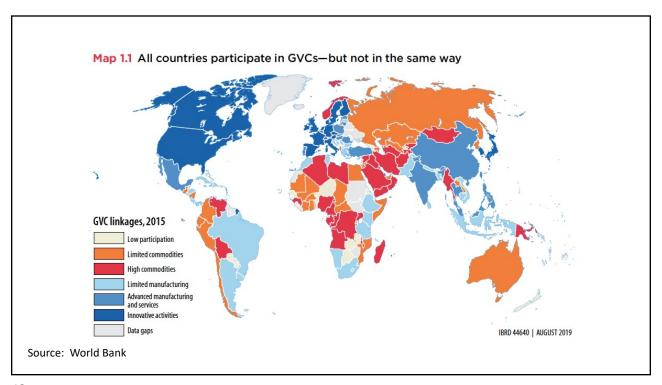












Pros and Cons of Globalization



Pros and Cons of Globalization

- Gains from Trade
 - o Theory of Comparative Advantage
 - Other Sources of Gain from Trade
- Costs of Trade







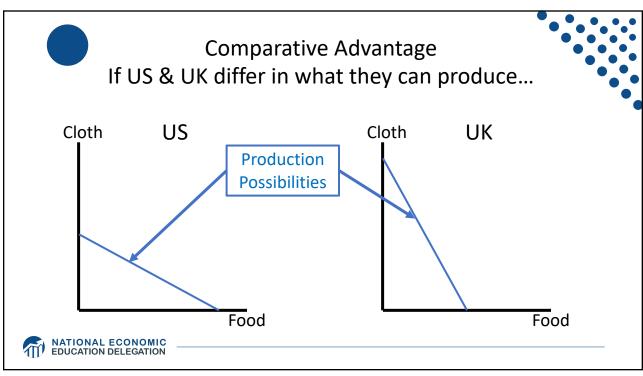


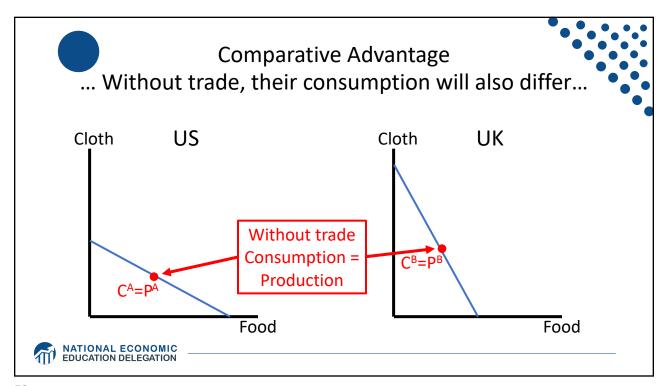
Comparative Advantage

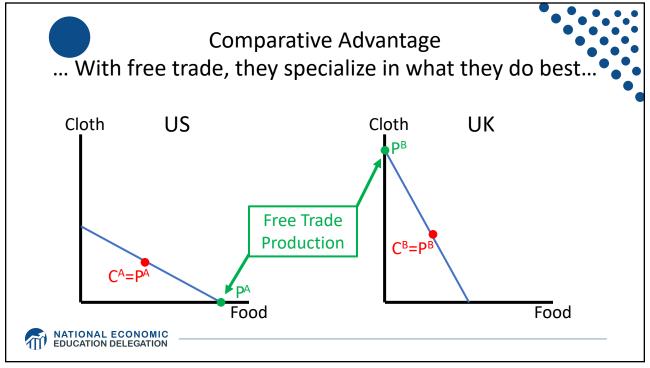
- The Theory of Comparative Advantage says:
 - Countries can gain,
 - o By producing
 - More than they need of what they do relatively best, and
 - · Less than they need of what they do relatively worst
 - o And exporting the extra to other countries in exchange for what they need
 - By doing that, ALL countries can
 - o Get more of everything, if that's what they want, and therefore
 - o Gain from trade
- Illustration with a graph of just 2 countries & 2 goods

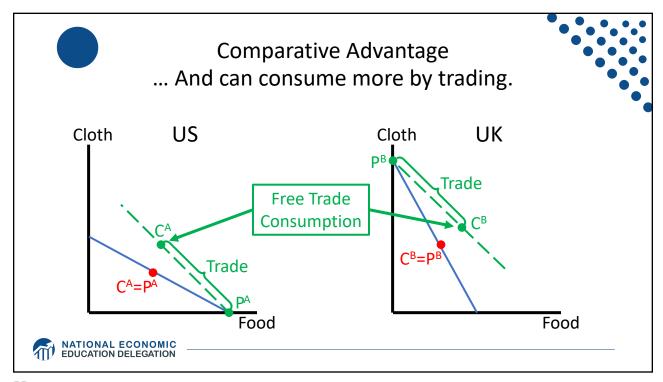


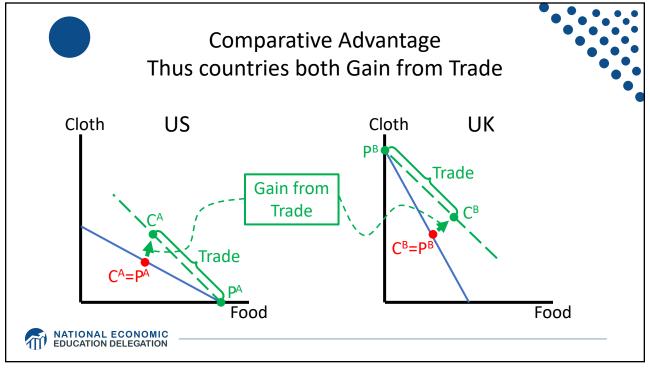
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Sources of Comparative Advantage



Differences in countries' production possibilities



These are due to differences in

- Resources
 - o Labor
 - o Land
 - o Capital
- Technologies (know-how)



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Generality of Comparative Advantage



- The Theory of Comparative Advantage requires:
 - "Perfect competition" (i.e., all buyers and sellers are very small)
 - Absence of market "distortions" (externalities, etc.)
 - i.e., reasons why supplies and demands don't reflect true costs and benefits
- The Theory of Comparative Advantage does <u>not</u> require:
 - Any limit on numbers of goods, factors, and countries
 - That only final goods are traded (thus consistent with supply chains)
 - That factors (labor, capital) be immobile between countries
 - (However, the gains from trade then accrue to countries including their mobile-factor owners.)

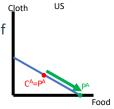


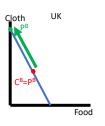
Generality of Comparative Advantage



• But note:

- Nothing in the theory says that everyone in each country gains
- Opening to trade requires
 - o Some industries to shrink or disappear while others expand
 - o Firms and workers in shrinking industries
 - · Certainly lose during the transition
 - May be permanently worse off
 - o In example, losers are producers of
 - · Cloth in US
 - · Food in UK













Other sources of Gain from Trade

- **Productivity** (most productive firms expand and export)
- Returns to scale (small countries can support larger firms)
- Competition (monopolies in small countries lose market power)
- Variety (buyers, both consumers and firms, can access more choices)
- Supply chains (firms can source parts from cheapest or best sources)
 - (That's really just the above, but within industries and firms.)
- **Technology** (producers get access foreign technologies)



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Costs of Trade



But there are Costs

• Economic:

- When trade expands (or contracts)
 - o Some firms lose market share or shut down
 - o Other firms supplying inputs to those firms shrink or shut down
 - o Workers in both lose jobs
 - And their communities lose customers
- Macroeconomic cost: Vulnerability to foreign recession/inflation
- Dependence on other countries' willingness to trade
- Vulnerability to trade disruption
 - o Crisis induced (earthquake, flood, disease, war)
 - Policy induced (sanctions, tariffs, export bans)

Non-economic

- Loss of cultural differences
- Spread of invasive species and plant disease
- Spread of human disease



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- -Questions
- -5-Minute Break
- Next: Trade Policies





Trade Policies that Affect Globalization

- Policies that **Encourage It**
 - Tariff Reductions
 - Trade Agreements
 - Other
- Policies that <u>Dis</u>courage It
 - Trump's Tariffs
 - Trade War



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Policies that Encourage Globalization



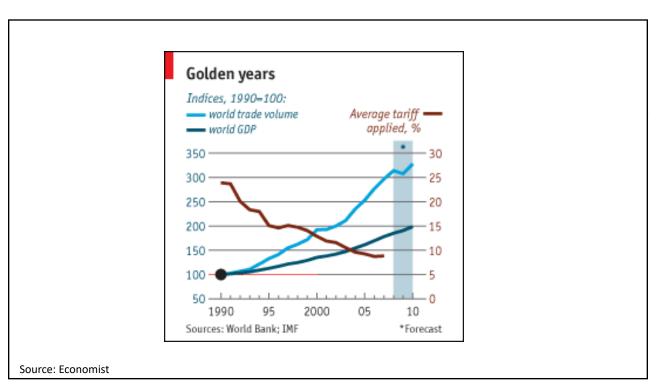


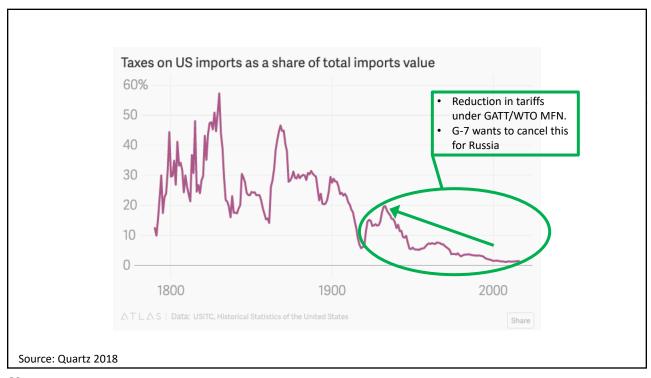


Tariff Reductions

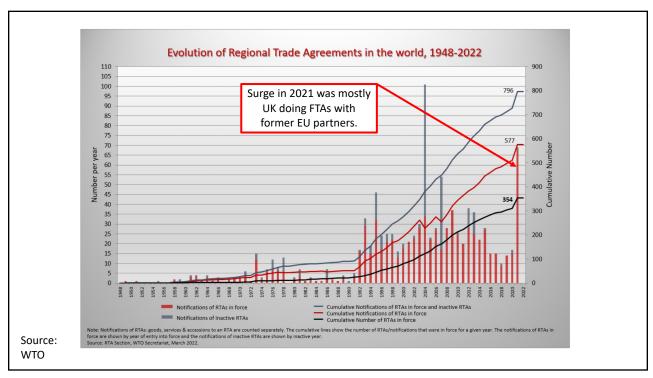


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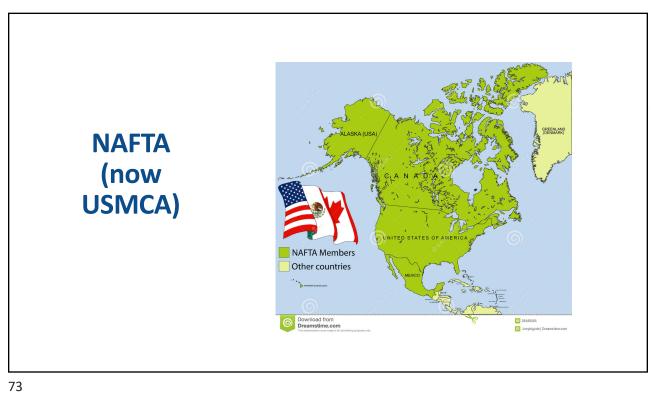




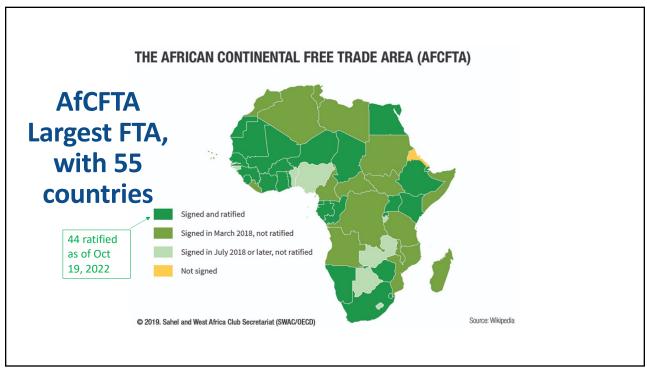














RCEP
=
Regional
Comprehensive
Economic

Partnership



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Other Policies to **Encourage Globalization**



- IMF/World Bank
 - Policy advice to open markets (the "Washington Consensus")
 - Loans to countries conditional on
 - Reducing trade barriers
 - Permitting capital flows

• GATT/WTO (World Trade Organization) [More on this later, if time]

- Negotiate reciprocal trade liberalization
- Settlement of trade disputes (usually about interfering with trade)
- Bilateral Investment Treaties
 - Better treatment of multinational corporations





Policies that Discourage Globalization



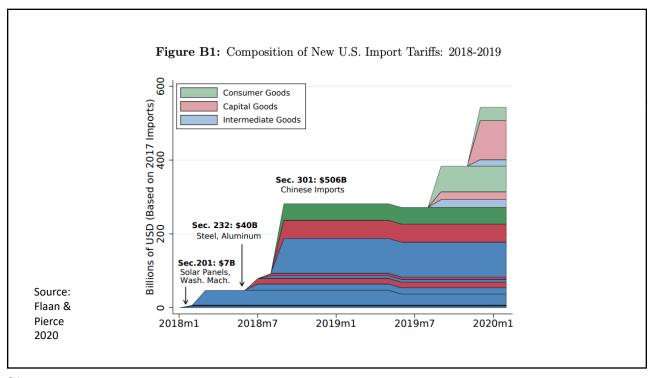
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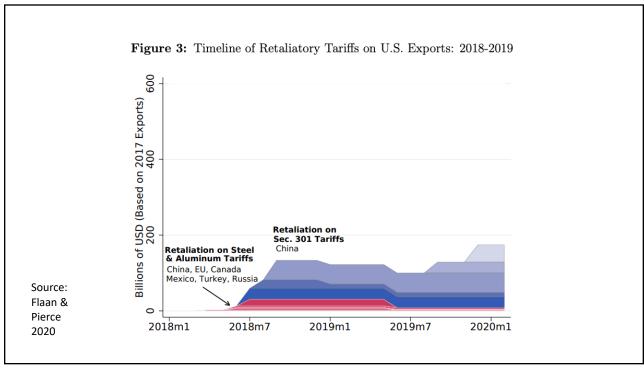


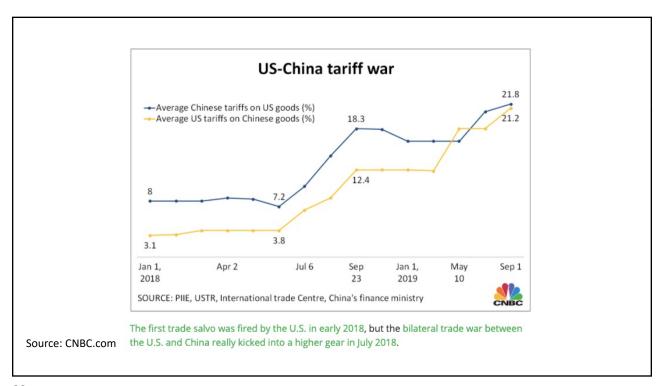


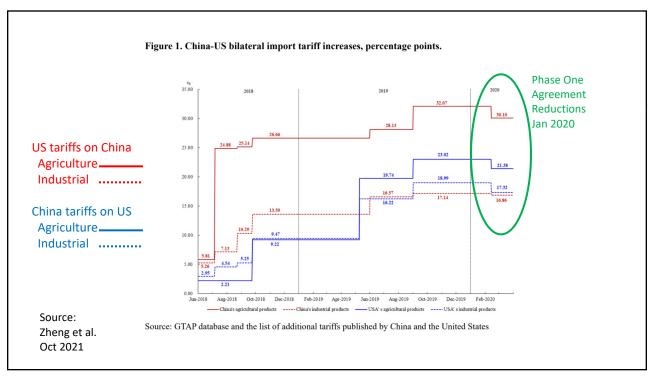


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Effects of Tariffs



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Effects of a tariff



- A tariff is a tax on imports. It causes
 - A rise in the price of the imported good in the importing country
 - A fall in the price of the imported good in the exporting country
 - The quantity imported to fall
 - The revenue of the tariff-levying government to rise
- Almost always: the <u>rise</u> at home is much larger than the <u>fall</u> abroad
 - That's especially true if importing country is small
 - But it's also true if importing country is as large as the U.S.
 - Example: Trump's tariffs caused US prices to rise, with hardly any perceptible fall in prices abroad.



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Effects of a tariff



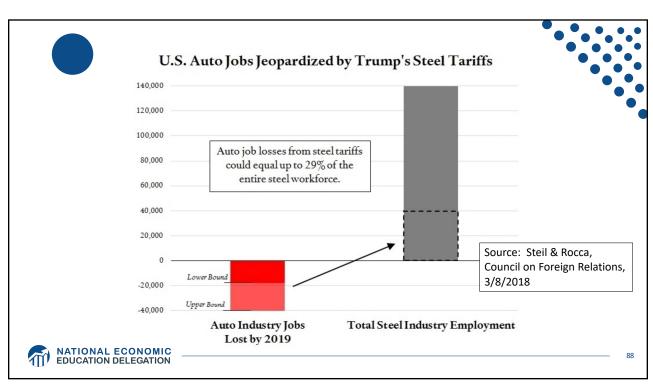
The rise in price in the importing country causes

- A rise in price of competing goods produced there
- Benefits to those producers
- Harm to buyers of both the import and the competing goods
 - o Including producers that use the higher-priced goods as inputs
 - Their prices also rise, hurting their buyers
- Employment changes:
 - o Increase in the protected industry
 - o Decrease in industries that use the protected product as inputs
- Example: Trump's 25% tariff on steel
 - o Helped US steel firms and their workers
 - Hurt US auto firms and workers
 - · and many other industries that use steel



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- "Nationally, steel and aluminum tariffs resulted in at least 75,000 job losses in metal-using industries by the end of last year [2019],
 - according to an analysis by Lydia Cox, a Ph.D. candidate in economics at Harvard University, and Kadee Russ, an economics professor at the University of California, Davis."



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Effects of a tariff



- If the tariff is on exports from only one country (e.g, China)
 - Buyers shift to imports from other, more costly, countries (e.g., Vietnam)
 - Sellers shift to export to other countries that pay less
 - Both lose a little



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Arguments for and against tariffs

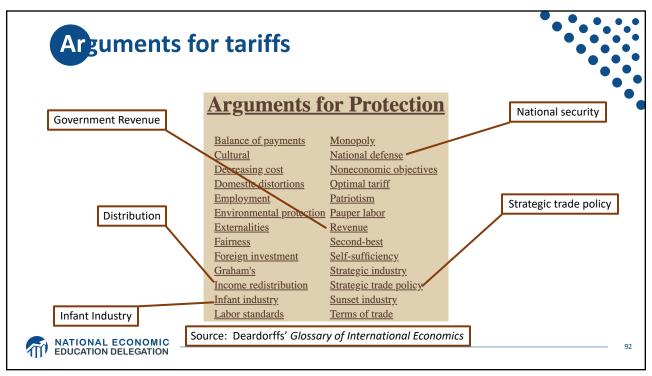


- If economists are so opposed to tariffs, why are they used?
- Arguments for protection
 - Many have been used, both past and present
 - Some are potentially valid, but better policies exist
 - See the list in my Glossary of International Economics



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Arguments against tariffs



Arguments against tariffs

- Economic gains from trade (see above)
- Tariffs prompt retaliation
- Some valid arguments for tariffs depend on information that is either
 - o Unavailable, or
 - Available only from the protected industry
- Even when net beneficial, tariffs are politically hard to remove
- Lower tariffs and greater trade reduce the likelihood of war

NATIONAL ECONOMIC Skip to Conclusions



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The Role of Trade Agreements

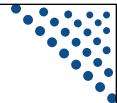


- Countries have negotiated trade agreements throughout history
 - At least back to the 1500's between the Ottoman Empire and the powers of Europe
 - The first "free trade agreement" (FTA) was between Britain and France in 1860, soon followed by many more
 - Removed tariffs on trade with each other
 - US used "reciprocal trade agreements" starting in 1934 to reduce tariffs and dig out of the Great Depression
 - US led negotiation of multilateral agreements via
 - o GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) 1948
 - o WTO (World Trade Organization) 1995





The Role of Trade Agreements



- Trade Agreements (both WTO & FTAs)
 - Promote trade by
 - Reducing tariffs
 - Blocking policies that discriminate against imports
 - But they also do much else, mostly to serve business interests:
 - o Permit anti-dumping duties to deter competition
 - o Protect intellectual property (patents, etc.)
 - Allow investor action against governments



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The Role of Trade Agreements



- WTO
 - 164 member countries
 - Includes
 - China since 2001
 - ∘ Russia since 2012
 - ∘ Not Iran, N. Korea
 - Headquarters Geneva, Switzerland









The Role of Trade Agreements



The WTO has

- Three Parts:
 - 1. GATT (Still exists, as largest part of WTO)
 - · limits tariffs
 - Permits exceptions (anti-dumping, etc.)
 - 2. GATS = General Agreement on Trade in Services
 - 3. TRIPs Agreement = Trade Related aspects of Intellectual **Property Rights**
- Two Basic Principles
 - Most Favored Nation (Don't discriminate among exporters)
 - 2. National Treatment (Don't discriminate against imports)



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The WTO's Main Functions

- Negotiation of reduced trade barriers
 - o Tariffs (GATT did this well; WTO has not)
 - Removal of other barriers
- Dispute settlement
 - Countries bring cases against others
 - o WTO "panels" and "Appellate Body" decide







WTO Negotiation

- Ministerial Meetings
 - Held every ~2 years 1996-2017
 - o Most recent, #12, was delayed,
 - But happened June 12-17, 2022, in Geneva
 - · Didn't do much: Ended subsidies to illegal fishing
 - o Next, #13, will be in 2024, in United Arab Emirates



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WTO Negotiation

- Agreements
 - Multilateral (all members)
 - None on tariffs
 - A few on other measures (e.g., export subsidies in agriculture)
 - Plurilateral (willing members)
 - · Information technology
 - Telecoms
 - · Financial services





The Role of Trade Agreements



WTO Dispute Settlement

- There have been 615 cases initiated since 1995 (as of 1/10/23)
- About 90% have been decided in favor of the complainant, both by US (132) and against US (168)
- The mechanism has been unable to decide cases since December 10, 2019 when
 - o President Trump blocked appointments to Appellate Body
 - o President Biden has not changed this



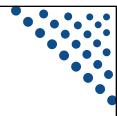
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Globalization's Future?



- Will trade, travel, etc. come back?
 - Yes, but only partly.
 - They've been hit hard by financial crisis, trade war, pandemic, and now war
- Will attitudes change?
 - Yes.
 - Firm's will try to limit exposure ("just in case" instead of "just in time")
 - Consumers may learn to live differently
 - Reported July 20: Biden administration wants "friend-shoring." No mention yet of policies.
- · Will economists' views of globalization change?
 - I think so.
 - We still think globalization is good overall,
 - o But we're learning that it needs to include
 - · Reduced reliance on single sources
 - Greater protections for those who are hurt.



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US Economic Update

Jon Haveman NEED



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