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Cultural Products and the World Trade Organization

TANIA VOON



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Cultural Products and the World Trade Organization

Debate about trade and culture has a long history, but the application of WTO rules to cultural products such as films, radio, and books remains one of the most divisive issues in the organisation. After assessing the economic and social arguments for treating cultural products differently from things like steel or wheat, this book explains how the vastly different views of WTO Members in earlier negotiations led to an outcome that is disappointing for all. It goes on to provide a comprehensive evaluation of possible solutions, including evolution of the law through WTO dispute settlement, a new agreement outside the WTO, and reforms to improve the balance between trade liberalisation and cultural policy objectives. As UNESCO's new convention affecting trade and cultural diversity is due to enter into force in 2007 and the WTO's Doha Round of negotiations is stumbling, the need for such an evaluation is all the more pressing.

TANIA VOON is Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Melbourne. From 2003 to 2005, she was Legal Officer in the Appellate Body Secretariat of the WTO. Tania studied law at the University of Cambridge (Ph.D.), Harvard Law School (LL.M.), and the University of Melbourne (LL.B. (Hons), Grad. Dip. Intl. L.). She has taught WTO law in Canada and Australia and published extensively in leading journals.

For Chester

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Agreement on Agriculture	Agreement on Agriculture, LT/UR/A-1A/2 (signed 15 April 1994)
Agreement on Government Procurement	Agreement on Government Procurement, LT/UR/A-4/ PLURI/2 (signed 15 April 1994)
Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft	Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft, LT/UR/A-4/PLURI/1 (signed 15 April 1994)
Anti-Dumping Agreement	Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, LT/UR/A-1A/3 (signed 15 April 1994)
DSU	Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, LT/UR/A-2/DS/U/1 (signed 15 April 1994)
Enabling Clause	Decision on Differential and More Favourable Treatment, Reciprocity, and Fuller Participation of Developing Countries, L/4903, BISD 26S/203 (28 November 1979)
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services, LT/UR/A-1B/S/1 (signed 15 April 1994)
GATT 1947	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, LT/UR/A-1A/1/ GATT/2 (signed 30 October 1947)
GATT 1994	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, LT/UR/A-1A/1/ GATT/1 (signed 15 April 1994)
Marrakesh Agreement	Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, LT/UR/A/2 (signed 15 April 1994)
Safeguards Agreement	Agreement on Safeguards, LT/UR/A-1A/8 (signed 15 April 1994)
SCM Agreement	Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, LT/UR/A-1A/9 (signed 15 April 1994)
SPS Agreement	Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, LT/UR/A-1A/12 (signed 15 April 1994)

Short title	Full citation
Textiles Agreement	Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, LT/UR/A-1A/11 (signed 15 April 1994) (now expired)
TRIPS Agreement	Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, LT/UR/A-1C/IP/1 (signed 15 April 1994)
WTO agreements	The Marrakesh Agreement and the documents contained in its four annexes

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Brazil – Aircraft (Article 21.5 – Canada II)	Panel Report, Brazil – Export Financing Programme for Aircraft, Second Recourse by Canada to Article 21.5 of the DSU, WT/DS46/RW/2 (circulated 26 July 2001)
Brazil – Desiccated Coconut	Appellate Body Report, Brazil - Measures Affecting Desiccated Coconut, WT/DS22/AB/R (circulated 21 February 1997)

Short title	Full citation
Border Tax Adjustments	GATT Working Party Report, Border Tax Adjustments, L/3464, BISD 18S/97 (adopted 2 December 1970)
Canada – Autos	Appellate Body Report, Canada – Certain Measures Affecting the Automotive Industry, WT/DS139/AB/R, WT/DS142/AB/R (circulated 31 May 2000)
	Panel Report, Canada - Certain Measures Affecting the Automotive Industry, WT/DS139/R, WT/DS142/ R (circulated 11 February 2000)
Canada – Patent Term	Appellate Body Report, Canada – Term of Patent Protection, WT/DS170/AB/R (18 September 2000)
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EC – Bananas III	Appellate Body Report, European Communities – Regime for the Importation, Sale and Distribution of Bananas, WT/DS27/AB/R (circulated 9 September 1997)
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EC – Bananas III (Ecuador)	Panel Report, European Communities – Regime for the Importation, Sale and Distribution of Bananas, Complaint by Ecuador, WT/DS27/R/ECU (circulated 22 May 1997)
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Greece - Import Taxes	GATT Panel Report, Special Import Taxes Instituted by Greece, G/25, BISD 1S/48 (adopted 3 November 1952)
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US – Offset Act (Byrd Amendment)	Appellate Body Report, United States – Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act of 2000, WT/DS217/ AB/R, WT/DS234/AB/R (circulated 16 January 2003)
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