



Foresight Seminar

THE LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS OF THE WAR IN UKRAINE TRADE AND GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS IN 2030

Expert Roundtables - By invitation only

15 February 2023

13:30-17:10 CET

(Light lunch 12:30-13:30 CET)

FEPS Office - [Avenue des Arts 46](#), Brussels

CONTEXT

Russia's aggression against Ukraine has been widely defined as a historic turning point - a watershed moment. The ongoing war is a profoundly destabilising event that upends earlier assumptions, carries wide-ranging ramifications for all dimensions of international affairs, and fuels uncertainty on the global stage.

The seminar will address the medium and long-term impact of the war on trade and global supply chains. The conflict has exacerbated a set of geopolitical and geoeconomic risks that already threatened the global trade architecture and the viability of supply chains and has generated new security challenges. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the progressive economic decoupling of the US and China and the broader weaponisation of interdependence had raised concerns about protectionism and seriously affected supply chains before the outbreak of the war. The war has brought new disruptions, leading to a spike in the price of commodities, lifting inflation, triggering a food security crisis, and threatening access to critical raw materials. Looking ahead, it is essential to consider the potential long-term ripple effects of the war for trade flows and rules, and for the vulnerability of supply and value chains. Issues for debate include prospects for (de-)globalisation, scope for cooperation to prevent unilateral trade measures, and the balance between resilience and efficiency in strengthening global supply chains.

To address these critical issues, participants are asked to take the long view, with a 10 years' time-horizon, and focus on four basic elements, which will structure the debate:

- a) **shaping factors**: what factors will fashion developments ahead, including elements of continuity and discontinuity,
- b) **shaping actors**: what actors will play a pivotal role in affecting change, and their possible strategies,
- c) the main **uncertainties** surrounding future developments and the **wild cards** that can be envisaged, and
- d) **implications for the EU**.

The workshop encompasses two sessions. The first is dedicated to assessing the long-term implications of the war for global trade governance and for the strategies of the main trade powers. The second addresses the key variables affecting the future shape, vulnerabilities, and resilience of global supply chains.



THE FORESIGHT PROJECT

FEPS, in collaboration with partners, has launched a foresight project to assess how the war in Ukraine may affect change in several key policy areas, and for the international order at large, over the long-term. This project builds on various foresight seminars, each targeting the impact of the war in Ukraine on distinct aspects of the international agenda such as energy, trade, sustainable development, security and prospects for political contestation and populism. The purpose is to help policymakers detect the possible long-term consequences of the conflict and shape a strategic approach to deal with current challenges. As a result of the exchanges and inputs gathered in a series of seminars, a book will be published to put forward scenarios and set out recommendations for EU action.

AGENDA

12:30-13:30 **LIGHT LUNCH**

13:30-13:40 **WELCOMING REMARKS & INTRODUCTION TO THE FORESIGHT SEMINARS**

- **Giovanni Grevi**, Special Advisor to the Foresight Project and Senior Fellow, CSDS, Brussels School of Governance

13:40-15:10 **SESSION ONE**

WHAT WAY FORWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE?

Issues for discussion: How will the war and connected trends impact the future of trade globalisation? Are trends pointing towards the regionalisation or fragmentation of the trade order, or managed globalisation? What implications for global trade governance? What balance between economic and geopolitical considerations in shaping the trade agendas of the EU and other major global players? What will be the role of new technologies in shaping trade flows?

Inputs by:

- **André Sapir**, Professor, Université Libre de Bruxelles & Senior Fellow, Bruegel
- **Elvire Fabry**, Senior Research Fellow, Geopolitics of Trade and Rapporteur of the working group on EU-China relations, Institut Jacques Delors

Open exchange with all participants

Moderator: **Giovanni Grevi**, Special Advisor to the Foresight Project and Senior Fellow, CSDS, Brussels School of Governance

15:10-15:25 **COFFEE BREAK**

15:25-17:00 **SESSION TWO**

GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS: MANAGING ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE

Issues for discussion: How will the Ukraine war and multiple geopolitical tensions reshape global supply chains? What are the risks concerning the security of supply of critical raw materials and the factors that could help mitigate those risks? What can be the impact of supply chain disruptions on the green and digital transitions? What prospects for the resilience of food supply chains and for food security? How can new technologies help reduce or deal with supply chain risks in the medium to long term?



Inputs by:

- **Werner Raza**, Head of the Austrian Research Foundation for International Development (ÖFSE)
- **Gyorgy Mudri**, Former Agriculture Expert, European Parliament and the US Department of Agriculture

Open exchange with all participants

Moderator: **David Rinaldi**, Director of Studies and Policy, FEPS & Lecturer at the ULB - Institute for European Studies

17:00-17:10 CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

- **Maria João Rodrigues**, FEPS President