

Integrating Different Architectures

Governance of East Asian Regional Economic Architectures:
The Dynamics of Regional and Global Economic Governance

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Economic Governance

- What are the Elements?
- Abbot, Keohane, Moravcsik, Slaughter and Snidal's "Legalization":
 1. Obligation
 2. Precision
 3. Delegation (Third Party Adjudication)
- I would also suggest Administration (Monitoring and Reporting – Transparency)

Global Trade Governance

- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
- General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)
- Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU)
- Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM)

Note: Limited Investment Disciplines – TRIMs and GATS Mode 3; refer to IIAs and ICSID instead

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

- ASEAN Charter
- Blueprint on the AEC
- ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA)
- ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS)
- ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA)
- Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism
- Scorecard

ASEAN Plus Arrangements

- FTAs with China, Japan, Korea, India and Australia/New Zealand
- Investment Chapters or Agreements with China, Korea and Australia/New Zealand
- Some ASEAN members in TPP and talk of RCEP

Creation of Rules

- Doha – slow progress
- ASEAN and ASEAN Plus – significant progress on tariffs but limited on the “sacred cows”

Dispute Settlement

- Malaysia – Prohibition of Imports of Polyethylene and Polypropylene [WTO DS 1] (Complainant Singapore)
- Thailand – Customs and Fiscal Measures on Cigarettes from the Philippines [WTO DS 371] (Complainant Philippines)

Note: Common Enhanced Preferential Tariffs (CEPT) disagreement settled without reference to ASEAN DSM

Monitoring

- All ASEAN Members are WTO Members now
- Myanmar and Vietnam going through their first TPRM
- ASEAN Scorecard measurements are limited, self-reported and not transparently discussed

Conclusion

- The regional economic architectures lean on the global architecture for support.
- This is unsustainable in the long term as WTO plus issues will arise with more economic integration.
- We need to find a way to use the models of the global architectures and build them into the regional architectures in a useful way.

