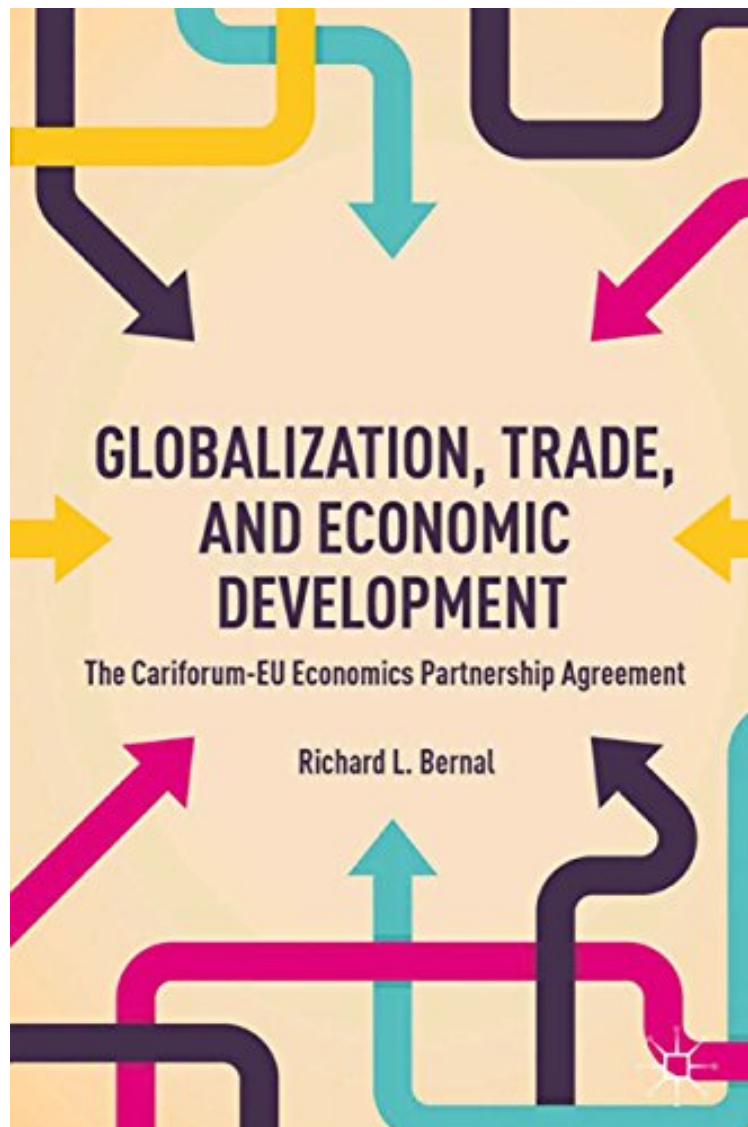


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Globalization, Trade, and Economic Development: The CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement

R. Bernal

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negotiator who demonstrates both academic and diplomatic skills in bringing the salient features so clearly to the attention of the reader. The book illustrates the challenges of a small grouping of CARIFORUM states comprising CARICOM countries and the Dominican Republic as they combined to promote an economic development package through the first ever Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union. No doubt this achievement outlines how small states grapple with opportunities to promote trade within a rapidly changing global economy. It therefore provides lessons for other ACP countries and regions in Africa and the Pacific to follow in this process and indeed to the rest of the developing world. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Read By Stephen This book is a page turner, I bought it as a precursor to my PhD thesis. The author balances theory with practice in his explanation of the EPA. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended By Mary K Perkins, Ph.D. This enlightening book on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) offers two splendid advantages over other works on trade agreements in the Caribbean. The first has to do with the nature of the agreement itself, especially its rare focus on development objectives. The author carefully lays out the requirements for such an agreement, and explains how they go significantly beyond the more customary relation between developed and developing nations, which are often based on a crude understanding of the nature of trade and development. Secondly, the reader has the benefit of learning from an actual participant in the debates surrounding the agreement. As Dr. Bernal was a principal negotiator of the EPA itself, he brings a level of practical understanding to the subject matter that is often missing in more remote academic treatments. This is a highly recommended read for those interested either in the Caribbean or in the evolution of trade agreements in the context of the 21st century.

This is the most in-depth study of the economic partnership between the European Union and the CARIFORUM countries, a group of fifteen small developing economies in the Caribbean. The CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) is the first trade agreement of its kind, as it is a new type of WTO-compatible trade agreement between a group of developed countries and a group of developing countries. As a principal negotiator for CARIFORUM, Bernal's qualifications allow him to provide a unique perspective on the increasingly important topic of trade and economic development in the midst of globalization. Globalization, Trade, and Economic Development comprehensively explores the components of the EPA from all angles, explains how the agreement provides opportunities to strengthen and accelerate economic development, and outlines the policies which can allow the CARIFORUM countries to seize these opportunities. Bernal's explanation of the institutional arrangements for the conduct of the negotiations by CARIFORUM is invaluable to governments and regional organizations in developing countries for coordinating groups to advance common and joint positions in international negotiations.

"In addition to being of interest to theorists of international relations and trade policy, this in-depth case study by a scholar-practitioner should serve as a valuable textbook for negotiators." - Richard Feinberg, Foreign Affairs "Essential for understanding how trade agreements between developed and developing countries can promote economic development in a rapidly globalising world." - Pascal Lamy, Director General, World Trade Organization "This is a book deserving of careful attention, both by professionals and the general public." - Sir Alister McIntyre, former Vice Chancellor, University of the West Indies "At this time when free trade agreements are proliferating, this detailed exposition by the Chief Negotiator for Caribbean countries on the negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement with Europe is a most valuable addition to the as-yet scant literature on regional trade agreements. Excellent in lucidity and analysis, this study offers many leads and lessons - how trade agreements could incorporate sustainable development objectives; how small developing countries could innovatively develop a mechanism for effective and balanced negotiations; how to positively reconcile controversial issues of imbalance and development needs with pressing WTO free trade policy thrusts; and the importance of appropriate institutional arrangement for managing and reviewing the Agreement." - Bishnodat Persaud, Former Director, Economic Affairs, Commonwealth Secretariat; Professor, University of the West Indies "This book shows exactly how a group of developing countries, acting collectively and with purpose, can effectively carve out a binding agreement with developed country partners (on a broad range of economic issues) that serves as an effective platform to enhance their capacity for growth and development in a highly competitive global economy. Dr. Bernal, as lead negotiator for CARIFORUM in creating the EPA, draws out the lessons of this experience with clarity and insight." - Donald J. Harris, Professor Emeritus of Economics, Stanford University, USA "In this insightful book, Ambassador Bernal presents a penetrating analysis of the conception, negotiation and ongoing implementation of a novel trade agreement between Caribbean countries and the European Union. Taking into account the vulnerability of small countries in today's world, Dr. Bernal explains how the centrality of sustainable development policy within the Economic Partnership Agreement makes it a model for progressive partnerships between developed and developing nations in the nascent post-Wesphalian global order." - Mary K. Perkins, Associate Professor, Howard University, USA "Globalization, Trade and Economic Development comprehensively explores the components of the EPA from all angles, explains how the agreement provides opportunities to strengthen and accelerate economic development and outlines the policies which can allow the CARIFORUM countries to seize these opportunities." - Jamaica Observer About the Author Ambassador Dr.

Richard Bernal is a professional economist with over 35 years of experience. Most recently he was Executive Director for the Caribbean (the Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) on the Board of directors of the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, DC. He holds the degrees of B.Sc., MA, Ph.D. (Economics), and MIPP (International Public Policy).