Trade agreements and electronic commerce
The users’ perspective

Jeremy Malcolm
RightsCon 2017, Brussels
March 31, 2017
Setting the Scene

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- However more open, transparent bodies also compete for policy authority over these issues
- Opening questions:
  - What is the scope of the electronic commerce rules?
  - What institutions are competing to address them?
  - How relatively accessible are they to Internet users?
Mapping Out E-Commerce Issues at the WTO

- Regulatory Frameworks
  - Enhanced transparency
  - Consumer confidence enhancement
  - Trade facilitating measures

- Open Markets
  - Liberalisation commitments
  - Measures ensuring openness

- Initiatives facilitating the development of e-commerce

- Enhanced transparency of the multilateral trading system

Source: (Adapted from) WTO document JOB/GC/116
Mapping Out E-Commerce Issues at the WTO

- **Regulatory Frameworks**
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- **Initiatives facilitating the development of e-commerce**

- **Enhanced transparency of the multilateral trading system**

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- All but “liberalisation commitments” are novel
- Trade *negotiation* transparency missing here
Some Trade Negotiations and Institutions

Regional/plurilateral

TPP
- Data localization
- Software source code
- Crypto standards
- Spam control
- Domain name rules
- Net neutrality
- Data protection (weak)

RCEP
NAFTA
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RCEP
NAFTA

Multilateral

WTO
- Many proposals
- Non norm-setting

TISA
- Intermed. liability

UNCTAD

Multi-stakeholder

OECD
ICANN, IGF
How Accessible Are These to Internet Users?

- Brussels Declaration on Trade and the Internet (2016):
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- Trade Transparency Roundtable recommendations (2017)
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• Trade Transparency Roundtable recommendations (2017)

• IGF Dynamic Coalition on Trade and the Internet (2017)
Panelists

Meghan Sali  OpenMedia
Michael Geist  University of Ottawa
Marília Maciel  DiploFoundation
Burcu Kilic  Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch
Maryant Fernández  European Digital Rights