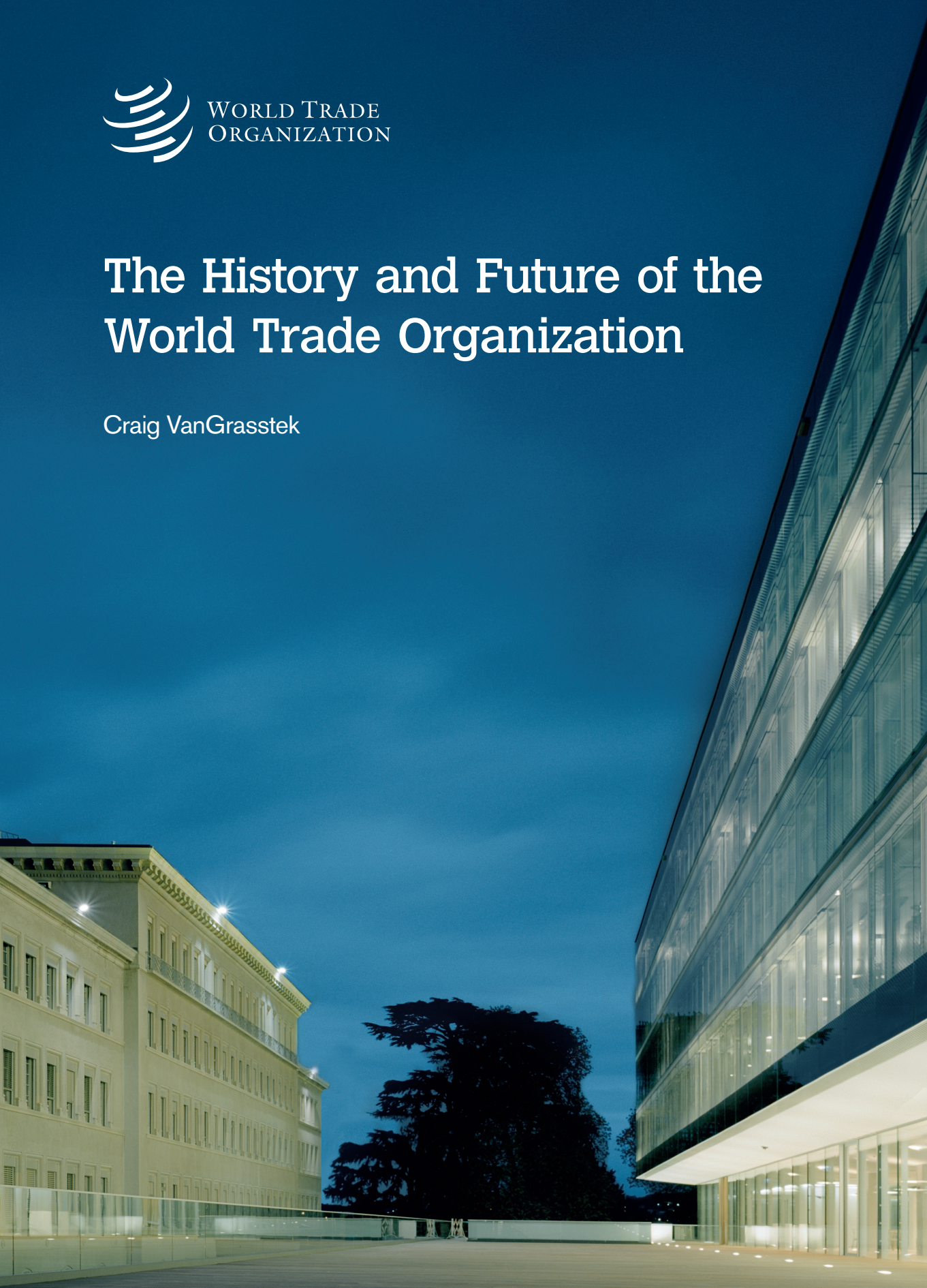




The History and Future of the World Trade Organization

Craig VanGrasstek



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The *History and Future of the World Trade Organization* draws on a wealth of human, documentary and statistical sources to examine in depth the economic, political and legal issues surrounding the creation of the WTO in 1995 and its subsequent evolution. Among the topics covered are the intellectual roots of the trading system, membership of the WTO and the growth of the Geneva trade community, trade negotiations and the development of coalitions among the membership, and the WTO's relations with other international organizations and civil society. Also covered are the organization's robust dispute settlement rules, the launch and evolution of the Doha Round, the rise of regional trade agreements, and the leadership and management of the WTO. It reviews the WTO's achievements as well as the challenges faced by the organization, and identifies the key questions that WTO members need to address in the future.



***The History and Future of the World Trade Organization* is fully illustrated with colour and black-and-white photos dating back to the early days of trade negotiations...**



Eric Wyndham-White, Executive Secretary and subsequently GATT Director-General, 1948 to 1968. © United Nations



China becomes the 143rd member of the WTO at the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, in Doha, in November 2001.



The Centre William Rappard, just before the official opening in June 1926. The building was originally headquarters to the International Labour Organization (ILO).



GATT Director-General Peter Sutherland presides in Geneva over the conclusion of the Uruguay Round on 15 December 1993. © Beatrix-M. Stampfli

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A heads of delegation meeting at the WTO in July 2004. Left to right European Agriculture Commissioner Franz Fischler, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick, Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim, European Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy, and Indian Minister for Commerce and Industry Kamal Nath. © Reuters/Denis Balibouse



The "green room" inside the Centre William Rappard, years after renovations rendered its title figurative rather than literal. Photo first published in Le Temps in 2008. © Eddy Mottaz/Le Temps



Members gather in a mini-ministerial in Geneva that aims, but fails, to bring the Doha Round to a successful conclusion, 21 to 29 July 2008.



Director-General Pascal Lamy and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at the Second Global Review of Aid for Trade in Geneva, in July 2009.



"The purpose of this work is to not only tell us about our past, but to explain our present and to inform our future. [The author] opens our minds to new explanations of how the WTO has become what it is today. This also gives us a sense of where the WTO can go tomorrow."

WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy

About the author

Craig VanGrasstek is publisher of the *Washington Trade Report* and a trade consultant. He earned his doctorate in political science from Princeton University, and has taught political economy at the Harvard Kennedy School, international relations at American University's School of International Service, and literature at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and in its Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures.

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