



Borderlex

UK trade policy academy

‘How to navigate the trade wars’

When: 16-17 June 2026 – in person

Where: The Palmer Room at One Great George Street

1 Great George Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3AA

Introduction

Join us for two days of learning, in-depth discussions, and expert-led sessions on the state of the trade policy around the world and what it means for trade and investment in and around the United Kingdom and wider Europe.

Key topics

- How security concerns are shaping the making of trade and investment policy in key jurisdictions outside the UK and in the country
- EU-UK reset – state of play, outstanding issues
- Customs, energy, critical raw materials, tariffs, free trade agreements, digital

This event is organised with the support of:
Trade Data Monitor



Programme partners: WITA



Speakers

- Adam Berman, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Energy UK
- Allie Renison, Director, SECNewgate
- Altan Yurdakul, Managing Director, Trade Data Monitor
- Anna Jerzewska, CEO, Trade and Borders
- Chris Horseman, Editor, Borderlex
- Colette van der Ven, Founder and Executive Director, Tulip Consulting
- Iana Dreyer, Founder, Borderlex and Senior Visiting Fellow, EUI
- Jennifer Hillmann, Professor, Georgetown Law
- Ken Levinson, CEO, WITA
- Madelaine Tuininga, Minister – Head of Economic and Trade Affairs
Delegation of the European Union to the United Kingdom
- Peter Harrell, Non-resident Fellow, Carnegie Endowment
- Soumaya Keynes, Columnist, Financial Times

By participating in this Borderlex Academy you will be able to:

- Assess how the current geopolitical environment shapes EU trade policy decision-making
- Understand how decisions are made in Council and the European Parliament in a more populist post-2024 election setting
- Come to grips with key changes in the EU trade policy framework such as customs reform and trade defence instrument practice
- Understand the EU's new bilateral free trade agreement landscape and how stakeholders can make the best of it.

Target audience

- Trade policy personnel in embassies
- Business association mid to top level management staff involved in trade policy
- Global company senior public affairs personnel
- Trade finance professionals
- Governments and ministry mid to top level management staff involved in trade policy
- National parliament staff

Programme as of April 23 2026

All speakers confirmed unless otherwise stated

DAY ONE TUESDAY JUNE 16 2026

Time	Topic	Speakers
14.00	Registration	
14.30	Welcoming remarks from the Chair	David Henig, Director, ECIPE
14.35	US tariff and trade policy after the Supreme Court ruling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The US tariff policy landscape since the ruling and where this leaves British business and UK-US relations Trade policy in the United States after the mid-terms: what to expect? 	Peter Harrell, Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment Jennifer Hillmann, Professor from Practice, Georgetown Law Allie Renison, Director, SECNewgate Ken Levinson, CEO, WITA
16.00	Coffee break	
16.15	WTO: Is there a future for MFN? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MC14 and its fallout for the UK and comparably sized economies UK priorities for the WTO after the ministerial conference in Cameroon 	Kumar Sabapathy Iyer, United Kingdom Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization (agreed in principle)
17.15	What the data say <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How conflict in the Middel East, the AI revolution, and US tariff policy have reshaped global trade in 2026. 	Altan Yurdakul, Managing Director, Trade Data Monitor
17.45	End of Day One	
18:30	Evening event: How to win a trade war with Soumaya Keynes	

DAY TWO WEDNESDAY JUNE 17 2026

Time	Topic	Speakers
08.30	Arrival and coffee	
9.00	EU economic security strategy - implications for the UK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the EU has acted on its November 2025 communication • What role for the UK in the EU's economic security thinking and action? 	Madelaine Tuininga, Minister – Head of Economic and Trade Affairs Delegation of the European Union to the United Kingdom
9.45	Indian trade policy and Europe: where next <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU and UK competing for Indian market access: comparing FTAs • Industrial policies, supply chain resilience, and the UK-Indian relationships in all this 	Colette van der Ven, Founder and Executive Director, Tulip Consulting Iana Dreyer, Founder, Borderlex
10.45	Coffee break	
11.15	What is in a veterinary agreement between the EU and UK? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a veterinary agreement and what does it mean to have a veterinary agreement in place with the EU? • Swiss, New Zealand and other precedents: lessons for the UK • Status report in EU-UK SPS agreement negotiations 	Chris Horseman, Editor, Borderlex
12.30	Lunch	
14.00	Digitalising customs: where we are in the UK and Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU customs reform - status report, implications for EU neighbours • UK Single Window and the EU UK reset in all this 	Anna Jerzewska, CEO, Trade and Borders

15.30	Coffee break	
16.00	EU-UK: Aligning carbon and energy markets and CBAMs in all this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement and energy • Negotiation status report • CBAM alignment: the nuts, bolts, and pitfall 	Adam Berman, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Energy UK
17.00	End of Academy	

Speakers



Adam Berman
Director of Policy and
Advocacy,
Trade UK

Adam Berman is Director of Policy and Advocacy at Energy UK, the industry body for the UK energy sector. He leads policy and advocacy work focused on accelerating the transition to Net Zero and enabling a low-carbon energy future. This spans technologies including wind, heat pumps, hydrogen and electric vehicles. Adam has extensive experience in UK and EU climate and energy policy. Before joining Energy UK, he was Policy Director at IETA, promoting effective global carbon pricing. Earlier roles include work on international climate policy and research in the UK Parliament. He is a recognised expert in decarbonisation, regularly appearing in the media and before Parliamentary Committees. He has advised governments through groups such as the UK's Carbon Capture and Storage Council, the Climate Change Committee's Electricity Design Expert Group, and the European Commission's Expert Group on Climate Change.



Allie Renison,
Director,
SECNewgate

Allie Renison joined SEC Newgate after several years in government, most recently serving as a direct policy adviser to the Business and Trade Secretary. She previously led the Institute of Directors' EU and trade policy, working closely with businesses across sectors and politicians from all parties during Brexit, as well as on broader international trade and investment issues. She has contributed to a number of expert groups in Whitehall and Brussels, including the Brexit Business Taskforce, Northern Ireland Technical Advisory Group and the European Economic and Social Committee. She has also regularly provided evidence to parliamentary committees of MPs and peers. Allie has appeared widely across media platforms on a range of policy issues and brings 15 years of experience working with stakeholders across Westminster and Whitehall, including media, parliamentarians, officials and think tanks.



Altan Yurdakul,
Managing Director,
Trade Data Monitor

Ali Edip Altan Yurdakul is Managing Director at Trade Data Monitor, based in Switzerland. He oversees the Geneva office and business development across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. He works with international organisations, governments, industry associations, and companies on trade statistics and methodology. He previously held senior management roles in start-ups and multinational firms across several countries. He holds a degree in applied economic sciences from the University of Brussels and speaks seven languages.



Anna Jerzewska
CEO,
Trade and Borders

Anna Jerzewska is a London- and Geneva-based customs and international trade expert with close to two decades of experience. She is the founder and director of Trade and Borders, a customs consultancy, and an associate fellow at the UK Trade Policy Observatory. Her work covers trade policy, trade facilitation and customs and border management. She advises clients including the United Nations, the UK government, business organisations, and private companies. Jerzewska is a published author, a regular media commentator and frequently gives evidence to UK parliamentary committees.



Chris Horseman
Deputy Editor,
Borderlex

Chris Horseman is a journalist with nearly 40 years of experience covering trade and agriculture policy issues. Since 2019 Chris has been Deputy Editor of the trade policy news service Borderlex, where he has provided specialist in-depth analysis of World Trade Organization and post-Brexit UK trade policy. He also writes for S&P Global Agribusiness as a Policy Analyst. Chris joined Informa in 1987, spending four years as Brussels correspondent for Agra Europe. He took up a senior editorial position in the business's UK office in 1991 and was Editorial Director with Informa Agribusiness Intelligence between 2006 and 2017. He has a degree in modern languages from the University of Birmingham.



Colette van der Ven
Founder and CEO,
Tulip Consulting

Colette van der Ven is an international trade lawyer specializing in sustainable development. She is the founding director of TULIP Consulting, a Geneva-based social impact consultancy advising stakeholders on the trade–environment–development nexus. Her clients include UN agencies, the World Bank, OECD, World Economic Forum, governments, and NGOs. She is also a visiting lecturer in international economic law at the Graduate Institute Geneva, a research fellow at the London School of Economics’ Firoz Lalji Institute for Africa, and a research associate at Europe Jacques Delors. Previously, she worked at Sidley Austin, representing governments in WTO dispute settlement. Colette holds a JD from Harvard Law School and an MPP from Harvard Kennedy School. She is a member of the New York Bar and has authored 50+ publications on trade and sustainable development.



David Henig
Director,
European Centre for
International Political
Economy (ECIP)

David Henig is one of the UK’s leading authorities on international trade policy, David Henig is Director of the UK Trade Policy Project at the think-tank European Centre for International Political Economy. As well as examining the trade implications of Brexit and UK trade policy, David has also written more broadly for ECIPE including a series of short papers on globalisation. He writes about all these topics in a regular column for specialist trade news service Borderlex and serves as Expert Adviser to the UK Trade and Business Commission, as well as making frequent media appearances on related subjects. Until March 2018 he worked for the UK Government including on Transatlantic Trade Investment Partnership talks between US and EU, establishing the Department for International Trade, and issues around inward investments from China. A graduate of Oxford University, David started his career in the private sector.



Iana Dreyer
Editor and Founder,
Borderlex

Iana Dreyer is the founder and editor of Borderlex, which she launched in 2014. She leads its editorial direction and writes on EU trade policy politics, challenges at the World Trade Organization, international trade disputes, trade and security, and EU-Asia trade relations. She has more than 15 years of experience in international trade policy. Before founding Borderlex, she worked at think tanks including the European Centre for International Political Economy, Institut Montaigne, and the EU Institute for Security Studies, and advised governments. She also worked with the *Financial Times* group and trained in journalism.



Jennifer Hillman
Professor of practice at the
Georgetown University Law
Center,
Georgetown University

Jennifer Hillman is a Professor of Practice at Georgetown University Law Center and a fellow at its Institute of International Economic Law. She teaches international trade and business law and co-directs the Center for Inclusive Trade and Development. She has served as a USMCA dispute panellist and has written extensively on WTO law, co-authoring *International Trade Law* (3rd ed., 2016) and publishing widely on trade policy issues. Hillman has held major public service roles, including serving on the WTO Appellate Body and as a commissioner at the U.S. International Trade Commission, where she worked on over 600 trade cases. She also served as general counsel and ambassador at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and advised Senator Terry Sanford. Previously a law firm partner, she is affiliated with leading policy organizations and boards. A graduate of Harvard Law School and Duke University, she has received multiple awards for her contributions to international trade policy.



Ken Levinson
CEO,
The International Trade
Association and Washington
International Trade
Foundation

Kenneth Levinson is Chief Executive Officer of WITA – The International Trade Association and the Washington International Trade Foundation. WITA is the largest non-profit, non-partisan organization focused on open discussion of international trade policy and economic issues, with over 10,000 members and 160+ sponsors. Ken brings more than 30 years of experience working with businesses, associations, NGOs, and governments on complex public policy challenges across sectors including technology, healthcare, agriculture, finance, energy, and consumer products. Previously, he was Senior Director for Global Government Affairs at AstraZeneca and Senior Vice President and COO at Fontheim International. He also spent six years working for U.S. Senator Jay Rockefeller, advising on foreign policy, national security, trade, and tax policy. Ken earned a master’s degree from New York University, studied at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and spent a year at the University of Copenhagen.



Kumar Iyer Sabapathy
United Kingdom Ambassador
and
Permanent Representative to
the
World Trade Organization

Kumar Iyer is the UK’s Ambassador to the United Nations, WTO, and other international organisations in Geneva, representing the UK across more than 35 global institutions. He previously served as Director General for Economics, Science and Technology at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), and as Chief Economist at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. He also held a senior role in the Prime Minister’s COVID-19 Taskforce. Iyer’s career spans public service, private sector, and academia. In government, he served as British Deputy High Commissioner to India, Trade Commissioner for South Asia, and held senior roles at HM Treasury and the Prime Minister’s Strategy Unit. In the private sector, he was a Partner at Boston Consulting Group and Oliver Wyman, and a senior adviser to Clifford Chance. Iyer studied at Cambridge and was a Kennedy Scholar at Harvard, where he also taught international finance.



Madelaine Tuininga
Minister – Head of Economic
and Trade Affairs,
Delegation of the European
Union to the United Kingdom

Madelaine Tuininga is Minister and Head of Trade and Economic Affairs at the EU Delegation to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. From 2007 to 2023, she held senior roles in the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Trade and Economic Security, working across trade and sustainable development, including labor, environment, climate, human rights, and responsible business conduct in EU, bilateral, and multilateral contexts. Her work covered trade defence, market access, and the trade aspects of industrial policy, raw materials, and energy. Earlier, she was a trade coordinator and negotiator for free trade agreements with Mexico, Chile, and Mercosur, and contributed to WTO accession negotiations, including Russia. Before joining the European Commission, she worked at the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs on U.S., Canada, and WTO policy issues. Tuininga holds a law degree from the University of Amsterdam.



Peter Harrell
Senior Fellow,
Carnegie Endowment

Peter Harrell is a Visiting Scholar at Georgetown’s Institute of International Economic Law and an attorney advising companies and investors on international legal, regulatory, and geopolitical risks, including sanctions and trade compliance. His research focuses on the future of U.S. trade law and the global trading system. From 2021 to 2022, he served at the White House as Senior Director for International Economics, working across the National Security Council and National Economic Council. He led initiatives on supply chain security, digital and telecom policy, and coordinated sanctions and export controls in response to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. Previously, Harrell practiced law and was an Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security. He has published widely and testified before Congress. Earlier, he served at the U.S. State Department and worked in journalism and politics. He holds degrees from Princeton University and Yale Law School.



Soumaya Keynes
Journalist,
Financial Times

Soumaya Keynes brings economics to life as a columnist for the Financial Times (FT), host of the FT's podcast *The Economics Show* with Soumaya Keynes and author of the book *How to Win A Trade War*. Before joining the FT, she was a staff writer for *The Economist* for eight years, covering the British and US economies, trade, globalisation, and the economics discipline. While there she won a SABEW award for her commentary and co-founded the *Trade Talks* podcast with Chad Bown of the Peterson Institute for International Economics. She started her career with a brief stint at HM Treasury and then spent several years as a research economist at the Institute for Fiscal Studies. She has a BA and an MPhil in economics from the University of Cambridge.

Booking and pricing

- Full fare: US \$ 1550 (includes VAT)
- Subscriber discounted fare: US\$ 1050 (includes VAT)

For enquiries and tickets contact Stephen Vanson

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