

International Conference

The African Renaissance in the Age of Globalization

What Role for International Investment Law?



10-11 November 2023 | Padova, Teatro Ruzante

Friday 10 November

14:30-14:35 | INSTITUTIONAL GREETINGS

14:35-14:45 | INTRODUCTION

Valentina Vadi Adjunct Professor, University of Florence, and Research Fellow, University of Padua

14:45-15:30 | KEY NOTE SPEECH

Is there a Role for International Investment Agreements in Fulfilling the SDGs?

José Enrique Alvarez Herbert and Rose Rubin Professor of International Law, New York University

15:30-16:45 | **PANEL I: African Treaty and Arbitral Practice: Africanizing International Investment Law?**

Chair: **Yenkong Ngangjoh-Hodu** Professor of International Economic Law, Manchester University

Investor Obligations in Investment Treaties: The New African Practice and Embedded Liberalism

Prabhash Ranjan Associate Professor, South Asian University, New Delhi, India

Africanization of International Investment Law: Reconciling Sustainable Development, Climate Change Mitigation, and Foreign Investment in the Global South

Gideon Odionu SSHRC Doctoral Fellow, University of British Columbia, Canada

Amplifying Economic Growth: A Blueprint for the Protocol on Foreign Investment in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)

Francesco Seatzu Professor of International Law, University of Cagliari, & **Paolo Vargiu** Associate Professor of International Law, University of Leicester

The 'Judicial' Path of the Renaissance: ICSID and the Role of African Lawyers

Sergio Puig Professor of International Economic Law, European University Institute & **Evo DeConcini** Professor of Law; Director, International Trade and Business Law Program, University of Arizona

16:45-17:00 | COFFEE BREAK

17:00-18:00 | **PANEL II: Permanent Sovereignty: Balancing rights and duties between post-colonialism and regionalism**

Chair: **Christina Binder** Professor of International Law and International Human Rights Law, Bundeswehr University Munich

Africa and International Investment Law: Balancing Rights and Duties in Post-colonial States?

Justice Osei-Afriye Teaching Fellow, University of Liverpool

Putting Permanent Sovereignty to the Test of Investment Contracts: The Quest for a Balance between the Protection of FDIs and the Emancipation of African Peoples

Sondra Faccio Assistant Professor of International Law, University of Trento & **Marco Pertile** Professor of International Law, University of Trento, Italy

Economic Integration, Regionalism and Africa's International Investment Law Regimes

Kehinde Folake Olaoye Lecturer, City University Hong Kong

18:00-18:30 | DISCUSSION

Saturday 11 November

10:00-11:00 | **PANEL III: Attracting foreign investment in the health sector**

Chair: **Andrea Gattini** Professor of International Law, University of Padua

Sustainable Foreign Investment in the African Health Sector through International Law in the Aftermath of the Pandemic

Pia Acconci Professor of International Law, University of Teramo

Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) and Host States' Need for Regulatory Freedom: Examining African States Practice concerning the Covid-19 Pandemic

Isaias Teklia Berhe Lecturer, College of Business and Social Sciences, School of Law, Asmara University Campus, Asmara, Eritrea

Attracting Foreign Investment in the Health Sector: The African Challenge between Regulation Harmonization and Collaboration with Foreign Medicines Agencies

Roberto Isibor Academic Fellow at Bocconi University, and Associate Hogan Lovells, Milan, **Caterina Coroneo**, Associate, Hogan Lovells, Milan, & **Angelo Forte** trainee lawyer, Hogan Lovells, Milan

11:00-11:30 | COFFEE BREAK

11:30-12:30 | **PANEL IV: Foreign Investments in Africa and common concerns**

Chair: **Roger O'Keefe** Full Professor of International Law, Bocconi University, Milan, and Honorary Professor at University College London

Foreign Investment as a Pathway to Inclusive Development in Fragile and Conflict-Affected African Countries: Turning Challenges into Opportunities

Collins C. Ajibo Lecturer in Law, Institute of African Legal Studies, Bayreuth

Transforming Women's Lives through Digitization of Microfinance Loans: The Case of Rural Women in Kenya

Phyllis Livaha Senior Lecturer, Erasmus University College

Legal Protection and Sustainability of Chinese Investments in Africa

Xiuli Han Professor of Law, Xiamen University

12:30-13:00 | DISCUSSION

13:00-13:05 | CONCLUSIONS

Tarcisio Gazzini Professor of International Law, University of Padua

ORGANIZERS

Tarcisio Gazzini & Valentina Vadi University of Padua

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