

SONIA E. ROLLAND, JD, PHD

Professor of Law and Business

Northeastern University School of Law & D'Amore-McKim School of Business

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Prof. Rolland's writings focus on the legal framework for sustainable and socio-economic development in international law, international economic law and energy regulation. Through the exploration of different subjects, she examines the intersection of legal regimes to improve the understanding of a multi-layered international and transnational legal order. She teaches public international law, international trade law, international business transactions, international business and global social responsibility, and has taught private international law. She has served in leadership positions at the American Society of International Law since 2013 including as Member of the Executive Council. She is a Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of International Economic Law. Rolland regularly advises international organizations and para-governmental organizations on international legal issues and WTO reform. She is on the list of Trade and Sustainable Development Experts approved by the EU Commission to serve on dispute resolution panels.

Works-in-progress: What is the policy space for climate interventions with trade impacts? (article); trade law and e-commerce (book chapter)

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge Faculty of Law, Ph.D	2009
University of Michigan Law School (USA), J.D.	2003
University of Paris 10 (France), M.A. <i>with Honors</i> International and European Economic Law	2000
Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (France), B.A. Political Science & International Relations	1999

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Professor of Law, Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, USA 2014 to date

- Senior Fellow, Center for Global Law and Justice

Professor of Law and Business, D'Amore-McKim School of Business, Northeastern University, Boston, USA 2025 to date

- Affiliate Faculty, Center for Emerging Markets

University Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Innovation 2020

Teaching portfolio:

In person teaching: International Trade Law, International Business Transactions (J.D. and LL.M.); International Business and Global Social Responsibility (Business School, undergraduate)

Online courses: developed and taught asynchronous courses: Trade Law course; International Business Transaction course (J.D. and LL.M.)

Other courses: Public International Law, Private International Law

Department and University Service:

Chair, Curriculum Committee (School of Law) 2024 to date

Elected Representative, University Faculty Senate 2022-23

Co-Chair, Climate Justice Action Committee (Faculty Senate)	2021-22
Faculty Senate appointed member, D'Amore-McKim School of Business Dean search committee	2021-22
Member, Assessment task force for American Bar Association accreditation	2020-21
JD Flex Task Force (evaluating the creation of a hybrid online-on campus J.D. program)	2020-21
Faculty Advisor, International Business Concentration (J.D. and LL.M. programs)	2019-21
Faculty Director of the LL.M. and International Programs	2014-18
Appointments Committee	2013-14
Member and Chair, Global Law Committee	2009-13
Faculty Advisor, Northeastern Law Journal	2009-12
Assistant/Associate Professor, Northeastern University School of Law	2009–14
Visiting Professor, Boston College Law School, Boston	Fall 2019
<i>Taught course:</i> International Business Transactions	
Visiting Professor, Columbia University School of Law, New York	Fall 2015
<i>Taught course:</i> The Law of the WTO	
Visiting Professor, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC	Spring 2015
<i>Taught course:</i> Week One–Extradition Problem (Jan. 2015, Jan. 2016)	
WTO Academy lectures (Nov. 2014, Nov. 2015): Developing Country Issues and Interests; Trade and the Environment	
Visiting Associate Professor, Georgetown University Law Center	Spring 2014
<i>Taught course:</i> International Trade and Business Law	
WTO Academy lecture (Nov. 2013): Trade and the Environment	
Lecturer, University of Michigan Law School	2007-08
<i>Taught courses:</i> International Litigation, Transnational Law (mandatory course for JD students)	
Visiting Research Fellow, Columbia University School of Law	Fall 2006
Judicial Fellow, International Court of Justice, The Hague, Netherlands	2004-05
Clerked for H.E. Judge Gilbert Guillaume and H.E. Judge Ronny Abraham	
Associate, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, Washington, D.C.	2003-04
Energy Law practice group: Domestic and international trade regulation, shipping issues for LNG, LNG infrastructure development, liability assessment for environmental damages for oil spills (federal and states), antidumping issues	
Bar Licensures: District of Columbia (admitted 2005) and New York (admitted 2004)	

JOURNALS & PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Editorial Board Member, Journal of International Economic Law	2023 to date
Advisory Editorial Board Member, North South University Law Review (Bangladesh)	2025 to date
Co-Editor, Journal of Legal Education (AALS journal)	2021-23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed submissions and made acceptance decisions with editorial team Commissioned and edited a themed double issue on “Teaching Law Beyond Borders: Comparative Approaches” (Vol. 72: 1&2). Edited submissions 	
Boston International Arbitration Council, Advisory Board Member	2018 to date

American Society of International Law (ASIL)

2011 to date

- Annual Meeting Committee Member (2025-26)
- Executive Council Member (2020-23)
- Co-Chair, Mid-Year Meeting Research Forum, (Nov. 2022)
- Advisory Board Member, Teaching International Law Interest Group (2022 to date)
- ASIL Insights Editor (2016-22)
- Co-Chair (2015-17), Vice-Chair (2013-15), International Economic Law Interest Group (614 members)
- Conference co-organizer: ASIL International Economic Law Interest Group Biennial Conference, *co-sponsored by the Institute for International Economic Law at Georgetown University Law Center* (Sept. 2017)
- Mentoring Group Leader, Women in International Law Interest Group (2014-15)
- Vice-Chair, Teaching International Law Interest Group (570 members) (2011-13)

Peer-reviewer for Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge Press and the journals *World Trade Review* (Cambridge University Press), *Journal of International Economic Law*, *Frontiers of Law in China* (Springer), *Modern Law Review*

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON TRADE LAW AND DEVELOPMENT, Sonia E. Rolland (ed.), Edward Elgar Publishing, July 2025

EMERGING POWERS IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER – COOPERATION, COMPETITION AND TRANSFORMATION (with David M. Trubek) 237 p., Cambridge University Press, 2019, paperback 2021

- Book listed as an “Outstanding Title for 2020” by the Association of College Research Librarians, out of about 6,000 submissions
<https://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/news/choice-names-40-outstanding-academic-titles-press-20201/>

DEVELOPMENT AT THE WTO, Oxford University Press, 2012, reprinted in paperback 2013; 396 p. & 82 p. data annexes (online), 700+ printed copies sold

- Reviewed by:
 - Sungjoon Cho, *Reinventing the Development Wheel of the World Trading System* (Reviewing Sonia E. Rolland, *Development at the World Trade Organization* (2012)), 16 JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW 481 (2013).
 - David Collins, *Sonia E. Rolland, Development at the WTO*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012, 361 pp, £70.00 hb., 76 MODERN LAW REVIEW 643 (2013).
 - Nicolas Lamp, *A Review of Sonia E. Rolland, Development at the World Trade Organization* (Oxford Univ. Press 2012), 4 TRADE LAW AND DEVELOPMENT 451 (2012).

BOOK CHAPTERS & EDITED COLLECTIONS

Development as a Litmus Test for Trade Law and Policy, in RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON TRADE LAW AND DEVELOPMENT (Sonia E. Rolland, ed.) (Edward Elgar Publishing 2025)

Sustainable Development and International Economic Law: Intersections or Convergence?, in THE SUSTAINABILITY REVOLUTION IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS (Kathleen Claussen & Geraldo Vidigal, eds.) (Oxford University Press 2024)

Quelle place pour le développement dans les accords sur les commerce et les investissements?, in VERS L'ÉMERGENCE D'UN NOUVEAU PARADIGME EN DROIT ÉCONOMIQUE INTERNATIONAL (Laurence Dubin, Saïda El Boudouhi & Rémi Bachand, eds.) (Pédone 2024)

Development-Driven Post WTO World (with David M. Trubek), in A POST-WTO INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ORDER: UTOPIAN, DYSTOPIAN AND OTHER SCENARIOS (Picker et al., eds) Springer Press, 2020. Reviewed at *JIEL*, Vol 24:2; June 2021: 509-514.

Embedded Neo-Liberalism and its Discontents: The Uncertain Future of Trade and Investment Law, (with D. Trubek), in GLOBALIZATION REIMAGINED: A PROGRESSIVE AGENDA FOR WORLD TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW (David Trubek, Chantal Thomas, Alvaro Santos, eds.) Anthem Press, 2019.

Engagement, coopération et compétition: perspectives sur la participation des pays en développement à l'OMC, in ACTES DU COLLOQUE DE QUEBEC SUR LES 20 ANS DE L'OMC (Charles-Emmanuel Côté et al., eds.) Presses de l'Université de Laval, 2017.

Consumer protection issues in cross-border e-commerce, in RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE LAW (John A. Rothchild, ed.) Edward Elgar, 2016.

Editor, *Special Issue* "Climate Change and International Economic Law: Chiasms and Complementarities," *LAWS* (2015)
http://www.mdpi.com/journal/laws/special_issues/Climate_Change_and_International_Economic_Law

Chapter 7 WTO Law, in TRANSNATIONAL LAW (M. Reimann, J. Hathaway, T. Dickinson, J. Samuels, eds., *West Casebook*, 2013).

Editor, *Special Issue* "Global Regulation of Nanotechnologies," 9 NANOTECHNOLOGY LAW AND BUSINESS (2013): collection of 6 interdisciplinary articles based on the proceedings of the conference "The Global Governance of Nanotechnologies," May 2010, Northeastern University School of Law (Boston, MA).

Les principes généraux à l'OMC in Vincent Tomkiewicz, Thierry Garcia & David Pavot, eds., LES SOURCES ET LES NORMES DANS LE DROIT DE L'OMC, Pédone, Paris, 2012, pp. 105-121.

Les groupements et coalitions d'Etats à l'OMC : la recherche d'un cadre juridique in Vincent Tomkiewicz, Thierry Garcia, eds., L'ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE ET LES SUJETS DE DROIT, Bruylant, Paris, 2011, pp. 79-94.

ARTICLES (some under former name Sonia Boutillon)

White Paper: Socio-Economic Development aspects of Sustainable Development: Towards Assessing and Equitably Allocating the Development Costs of Trade Agreements (for the Remaking Trade for a Sustainable Future project) <https://remakingtradeproject.org/villars-framework>.

The Impact of Trade and Investment Treaties on Fiscal Resources and Taxation in Developing Countries, 21 CHICAGO JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 48 (2020).

Retooling or Redesigning Trade Law?, 2019 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LAW REVIEW ONLINE 22.

Legal Innovation in Investment Law: Rhetoric and Practice in the South (with David M. Trubek), 39 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 355 (2017).

The Return of State Remedies in Investor State Dispute Settlement: Trends in Developing Countries, 49 LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO LAW JOURNAL 387 (2017).

Making International Economic Law Work: Integrating Disciplines and Broadening Policy Choices, 48 GEORGETOWN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 371 (2017).

Subsidies, Clean Energy, and Climate Change (with Ilaria Espa), International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and World Economic Forum (2015), available at: <http://e15initiative.org/publications/subsidies-clean-energy-and-climate-change/>

Are Consumer-Oriented Rules the New Frontier of Trade Liberalization? 55 HARVARD INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL 361 (2014).

Taking Climate Change by Storm: Theorizing Global and Local Policy-Making in Response to Extreme Weather Events (with Amy Pimentel and Auroop Ganguly), 63 BUFFALO LAW REVIEW 933 (2014).

International Decisions: Whaling in the Antarctic (Australia v. Japan: New Zealand Intervening), 108 AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 496 (2014).

Considering Development in the Implementation of Panel and AB Reports, 4 TRADE, LAW AND DEVELOPMENT 150 (2012).

Redesigning the Negotiation Process at the WTO, 13 JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW 65 (2010).

Developing Country Coalitions at the WTO: In Search of Legal Support, 48 HARVARD INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL 483 (2007).

The Interpretation of Article I of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees by the European Union: Toward Harmonization, 18 GEORGETOWN IMMIGRATION LAW JOURNAL 111 (2003).

The Precautionary Principle: Development of an International Standard, 23 MICHIGAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 429 (2002). Conclusions adopted by the **International Law Commission** in its Third Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Legal Regime for the Allocation of Loss in case of Transboundary Harm Arising out of Hazardous Activities, UN Doc. A/CN.4/566 (March 2006).

SHORTER PUBLICATIONS (some under former name Sonia Boutillon)

Book Review: *Energy and the Environment: Exploring the Nexus under International Economic Law*. By Sherzod Shadikhodjaev (Cambridge University Press, 2024), 43 CHINESE (TAIWAN) YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND AFFAIRS__ (forthcoming 2025)

Book Review: *Emerging Powers and the World Trading System: The Past and Future of International Economic Law*. By Gregory Shaffer, 116 AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 452 (2022).

Book Review: *The Social Foundations of World Trade: Norms, Community, and Constitution*. By Sungjoon Cho, 110 AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 596 (2016).

Book Review: "Regulation of Energy in International Trade Law – WTO, NAFTA and Energy Charter. Edited by Yulia Selivanova" 16 JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW 475-480 (2013).

Book Review: *Environmental Principles: From political Slogans to Legal Rules* (N. de Sadeleer), 16 EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 164 (2005).

Comment: Standards for Habeas Corpus Review for “Enemy Combatants” Under Hamdi, Padilla, and Rasul, 2004 GLOBAL COMMUNITY YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 173 (2004).

POLICY, CONSULTING AND EXPERT GROUPS

Working Group on Subsidy/Industrial Policy Rules for a Sustainable Future, Group 8 Leader: Flexibilities for Developing Countries (University of Milan & Università della Svizzera italiana) (2024 to present)

Trade and Sustainable Development Expert, EU Commission: [list of individuals suitable for appointment](#) on panel proceedings to resolve disputes under the Trade and Sustainable Development chapters of the EU's trade agreements.

Steering Committee Member: Remaking the Global Trading System for a Sustainable Future, Yale Law School (multi-year project 2021-present).

Moderator-facilitator: Consultation between the US Dept of State and the Bring Human Rights Home Network on the draft treaty on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights, Nov. 2023.

Presentation to **Algeria's Conseil National Economique, Social et Environnemental**: *Algerie: Les opportunités et les contraintes de l'accession à l'OMC*, Oct. 2021.

Study for the UN Special Rapporteur for the Rights of Disabled Persons: *Interpreting the 2000 Hague Convention on the International Protection of Adults Consistently with the 2007 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (with Alex Ruck Keene) (2021).

- Cited in Lorenz Adriaenssens, Camille Borrett, Sarah Fialon, Pietro Franzina, Nathy Rass-Masson and Ian Sumner, *Study on the Cross Border Legal Protection of Vulnerable Adults in the EU* (2021) (a study commissioned by the EU Commission), <https://www.cde.ual.es/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/DS0722000ENN.en.pdf>

Boston University Global Development Policy Center: The Impact of Trade and Investment Treaties on Mobilization of Taxation in Developing Countries, *GECI Working Paper 31* (Oct. 2019) available at <http://www.bu.edu/gdp/files/2019/11/Rolland-22Impact-of-Trade-and-Investment-Treaties22.pdf>.

Roundtable Conversation with Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for International Trade Graham Stuart, MP, UK Consulate, Boston (2018)

International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development, Geneva. E15Initiative, Expert member of the Task Force Rethinking International Subsidies Disciplines (2014-15).

United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on Sovereign Debt Restructuring Processes, New York: Presentation to UN Delegates: Lessons from the WTO Dispute Settlement Process (Feb. 4, 2015).

WTO Academy, Georgetown University Law Center: Lectures on trade and the environment; developing country issues and interests (Nov. 2014, Nov. 2015).

Commissioned consultant for the India Institute of Foreign Trade, WTO Center: Drafted study on *Alternative Approaches to Multilateral Negotiations at the WTO: Beyond the Single Undertaking* (2013).

Vanuatu National Deep Sea Minerals Stakeholder Consultation Workshop: Invited Participant, assisted in formulating national interests including FDI, taxation, government assistance and other fiscal policy implications of the proposed industry activities (May 2012).

International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development, Geneva: Peer Reviewer for study on "Biofuels Certification and the Law of the World Trade Organization" (Marsha Echols) (2010).

Sogreah (Environmental engineering and management consulting firm), Paris, France: Consultant: Prepared impact assessment for a proposed environmental tax legislation on flood zones (1999).

RESEARCH GRANTS

- Co-PI (with Prof. A. Ganguly, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering): Research Grant for a collaborative project on the legal and policy implications of extreme climate events modeling in the global climate change context (2012-13).
- Center for Emerging Markets, Northeastern University D'Amore-McKim School of Business: Travel grant to investigate Vanuatu's accession to the World Trade Organization (2011-12).

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND GUEST LECTURES

Sustainable Development as a Litmus Test for Trade Law and Policy, Law & Society Association annual meeting (May 2025)

Lanfare & Economics, US Army War College, School of Strategic Landpower (April 2025)

International Court of Justice and the World Trade Organization: Theory and Practice, US Army War College, School of Strategic Landpower (March 2024)

Trade Law, Development and Indigenous Peoples, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, International School Indigenous Rights, Responsibilities and Ethics (Jan. 2024).

Comments and Review for "Investing the ASEAN Way" (S. Cho & J. Kurtz), International Economic Law Interest Group, ASIL (Aug. 2023).

Remaking the World Trading System Workshop and presentation, ITAM, Mexico City (July 2023).

Trade, Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation, International Law Weekend, Fordham Law School (Oct. 2022).

Book presentations: *Emerging Powers in the International Economic Order*

- *Emerging Powers and International Economic Law Ordering: Two Books in Conversation*, Law & Society Association, Lisbon (July 2022).
- North South University, Dhaka, Bangladesh (Aug. 2021)
- International Economic Law Interest Group, American Society of International Law (July 2020)
- Center for Emerging Markets, D'Amore-McKim School of Business (Nov. 2020)
- Global Development Policy Center, Boston University (Nov. 2019)

Reforming the International Trade Law Regime for Development, Yale Law School (March 2021).

Global and Local Policy-Making in Response to Extreme Weather Events: A Scale Dilemma, Fordham Environmental Law Review Symposium (March 2021).

No Calm after the Storm: How Emerging Countries are Moving on from the Neoliberal Order, Law and Political Economy Project, Yale Law School (Feb. 2021).

Rethinking the Function and Purpose of International Economic Law, UC Irvine Law School (Dec. 2020)

A Development-Driven Post WTO World, Fletcher School, Tufts University (July 2019)

Embedded Neoliberalism and its Discontents: The Uncertain Future of Trade and Investment Law, Harvard Law School (April 2018).

Emerging Economies, Developmental Strategies, and Trade Standards: The Search for Alternative Space, Boston University (Sept. 2017).

The Return of State Remedies in Investor State Dispute Settlement: Trends in Developing Countries Loyola University Chicago Law Journal Symposium (April 2017).

Trade: Boone or Bane? Massachusetts Institute of Technology, International Development Group (Sept. 2016).

Toward more development-friendly and predictable investment protection: post-BIT trends from emerging economies and the future of the system, American Society of International Law Research Forum (American University, Oct. 2015).

Engagement, coopération et compétition: perspectives sur la participation des pays en développement à l'OMC, Faculté de droit de l'Université Laval (Québec, Canada, Sept. 2015).

The Intersection of Trade Law and Consumer Protection, NY City Bar Association, International Trade Committee (Jan. 2015).

Panel Convener and Chair: "Regulation of Corporate Governance: A New Vector for Effective Transnational Labor Standards Enforcement?" International Law Weekend, Fordham University School of Law (Oct. 2014).

Atom versus Bits: Consumer Protection in the (Cyber) Trade Regime, American Society of International Law Annual Meeting, April 2014, published at 108 ASIL PROCEEDINGS 53 (2014).

Are Consumer-Oriented Rules the New Frontier of Trade Liberalization? Georgetown University Law Center (March 2014)

The BRICS' Contributions to the Architecture and Norms of International Economic Law, American Society of International Law Annual Meeting, April 2013, published at 107 ASIL PROCEEDINGS 164 (2013).

Development at the WTO: Looking Beyond the Doha Round (book tour):

- India (2013): Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Centre for WTO Law, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), Jindal Global Law School, Research Centre on International Economic Law, Jodhpur National Law University, University of South Asia
- United Kingdom (2012): Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, Cambridge University; London School of Economics
- Vanuatu (2012): University of South Pacific

Protection of marine species under WTO law, University of South Pacific, May 2012 (Port Vila, Vanuatu)

The Massachusetts Interagency Nanotechnology Committee, Workshop on Environmental Policy in Massachusetts, Northeastern University, October 2010 (Boston, MA)

LANGUAGES

- Bilingual French/English
- Advanced Spanish
- Basic German and Russian

LEGAL TRANSLATION (FRENCH TO ENGLISH): J. Crawford and A. Pellet (eds.) LCIL/PARIS X – Nanterre
THE LAW OF INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (Oxford University Press 2010) (selected chapters).