

# **MICROECONOMIC INTERNATIONAL TRADE-RELATED THESIS TOPICS**

1. General topics related to market access (trade policy or domestic regulations)
  - 1.1 Assessing the implications of regional integration for trade or investment
  - 1.2 South-South trade involving China: Who benefits?
  - 1.3 An analysis of market access restrictions: by country, by sector or product
  - 1.4 Do a country's market access restrictions comply with WTO rules? Do they meet the spirit of WTO commitments?
  - 1.5 Does domestic support in mature economies affect market access of agricultural goods from developing countries?
  - 1.6 Does phasing out export subsidies affect sensitive agricultural sectors in mature economies?
  - 1.7 Rise of multinational state-owned enterprises and implications for competitive trade
  - 1.8 Trade liberalization, growth rates and income equality/inequality
  - 1.9 Capital flows, growth rates and income equality/inequality
  
2. Current events related to China
  - 2.1 Implications of the US-China trade war for US-China trade
  - 2.2 Effect of the US-China trade war for third-country trade (e.g., Vietnam)
  - 2.3 Have international supply chains been affected by US-China hostilities?
  - 2.4 Study of China's 'Belt and Road Initiative' for regional/global trade
  - 2.5 Study of China's 'Made in China 2025' industrial policy for trade patterns
  - 2.6 Does the US-China trade war reflect a multilateral trade rules breakdown?
  - 2.7 Is de-industrialization in mature economies linked to China's graduation in value added manufacturing or the rise of 'factory Asia's' supply chain?
  - 2.8 Can Africa's clothing industry survive Asian (Chinese) competition?
  
3. Brexit-related and EU-related issues
  - 3.1 Sectoral analysis of the economic implications of Brexit for the EU, UK
  - 3.2 Assessment of alternative arrangements for the EU-UK after Brexit
  - 3.3 US-EU trade disputes (e.g., agriculture, case of Airbus and Boeing)
  - 3.4 Indicators of successful integration: sectoral performance within the EU
  - 3.5 Labor migration in the EU and effects on labor markets
  - 3.6 Capital flows in the EU and effects on product or labor markets
  
4. Global financial crisis (GFC) and Covid-19-related restrictions
  - 4.1 Effect of reversal of globalization on international supply chains
  - 4.2 Did capital flows patterns change with the GFC?
  - 4.3 Effect of the pandemic on trade patterns between countries
  - 4.4 Effect of policy measures taken in mature economies in response to the GFC or Covid-19 on developing countries
  - 4.5 Has the pandemic affected capital flows between countries?
  - 4.6 How has the GFC or pandemic affected foreign labor or remittances?
  - 4.7 How has Covid-19 affected cross-border Norway-Sweden activity?

# MACROECONOMIC INTERNATIONAL TRADE-RELATED THESIS TOPICS

## 1. General topics related to international macroeconomy

Key words: balance of trade (payments), role of international reserves, role of the IMF (International Monetary Fund), macroeconomic imbalances, exchange rates, capital flows (controls) and GDP, inflation and targeting, labor and employment, debt, currency crisis, monetary union, central bank (independence, monetary policy), monetary and fiscal policy, quantitative easing, negative interest rates

- 1.1 Evidence of the effectiveness of the use of capital controls
  - 1.2 Have Trump's trade 'wars' served to correct US balance-of-trade deficits
  - 1.3 What is sustainable debt? When is debt a problem for households, firms and government?
  - 1.4 Comparison of monetary union in the EMU or US
  - 1.5 Revisiting the case for or against flexible/fixed exchange rates
  - 1.6 Has the EMU affected trade patterns with Europe?
  - 1.7 A macroeconomic assessment of regional economic integration or of regional monetary union
  - 1.8 What effect has the global financial crisis or pandemic had on the macroeconomy of a country?
  - 1.9 Analysis of the macro policies taken in a country in response to the global financial crisis or pandemic or comparison across countries
  - 1.10 Analysis of the macroeconomic imbalances in a country or comparison of the imbalances across countries
  - 1.11 Analysis of the relationship between exchange rates, inflation, interest rates, trade and/or capital flows
  - 1.12 What macroeconomic effects might be expected on account of Brexit (for the EU, UK, Norway)?
- ## 2. Monetary and fiscal policy spillover effects
- 2.1 The role of the US dollar for the macroeconomies of emerging markets, oil producing countries, commodity exporters
  - 2.2 The effect of quantitative easing by central banks in the US, UK, ECB and Japan on the economies of emerging markets
  - 2.3 The effect of quantitative easing by central banks on capital flows
  - 2.4 The implications of a decline in the role of the US dollar
  - 2.5 How does the US dollar affect the value of currency and development of the economy of another country?
  - 2.6 Did the inclusion of China's currency as an international reserve currency have any effect on trade patterns?
  - 2.7 Are there indicators suggesting China's currency is challenging the role of the US dollar?
  - 2.8 How have fiscal policy transfers to specific sectors affected the macroeconomies of developing countries?