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Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP): Implications for Health Care and Health Professionals

Elizabeth Wiley, MD, JD, MPH

21 May 2016

ewiley@umm.edu

@elizabeth_wiley

Disclosure

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.

In a globalized world, health workforce regulation in **trade policy** is not a new challenge…

What's **different** about this "new" generation of trade agreement negotiations?

"New Generation" of Trade Agreement Negotiations

- Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)
- Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership (TTIP)
- Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)
- Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)
- Comprehensive Economic & Trade Agreement (CETA)

Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership (TTIP)

"[The TTIP] ..is not just another trade negotiation…It's a negotiation that goes beyond traditional trade issues like market access for goods and services. Most importantly, but not only, it's about regulation."

– EU Trade Commisssioner Cecilia Malmstrom, 11 December 2014, Brussels

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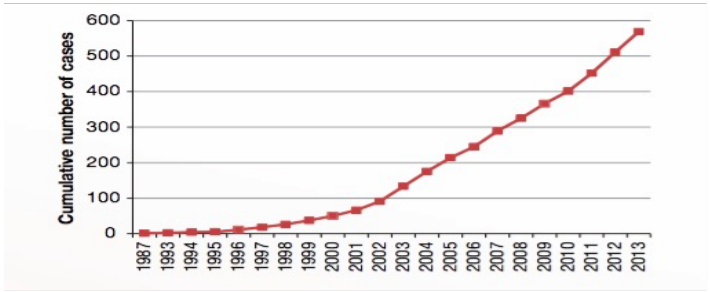
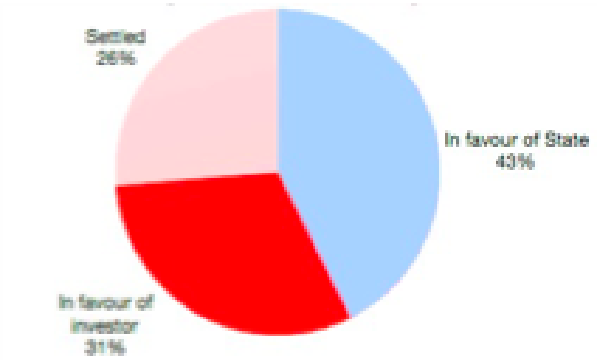
Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS)/Investment Court System (ICS)

- Enables investors to challenge laws/regulations
- Limited to no judicial review
- Non-transparent
- Favorable to industry
- Regulatory chill

Known ISDS Cases (2013)



Results of Concluded ISDS Cases (2013)



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Recent Developments in Investment State Dispute Settlement (ISDS). 2014. Available at http://unctad.org/en/publicationslibrary/webdiaepcb2014d3_en.pdf

GATS v. "New Generation" of Negotiations

General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) (WTO)	"New" Generation of Trade Agreement Negotiations (TPP/TTIP/TiSA/RCEP/CETA)
• Health-related services commitments limited • Government services carve out • Dispute settlement generally limited to existing WTO mechanisms	• All parties to each agreement committed • Inclusion, scope and enforceability of any government or public services carve out unclear • Likely inclusion of ISDS

Trade Agreements, UHC & Health Workforce?

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Selected Health Workforce Scenarios

- Medical Education
- Licensing & Professional Qualification
- Migration & Geographic Distribution

Conclusions

- “New” generation of trade agreement negotiations may help or hinder efforts to realize UHC, social accountability
- Numerous direct and indirect scenarios for health workforce
- Analyses limited by lack of transparency in negotiations

Conclusions

- Health & health care consequences of agreements must be weighed against potential economic benefits
- Medical and public health communities have a professional obligation to engage in policy discussions

Thank you!

Elizabeth Wiley, MD, JD, MPH

ewiley@umm.edu

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