



### Constraining Development

The Shrinking of Policy Space in the International Trade Regime

By Rachel Denae Thrasher

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"The international trade and investment architecture has been broken for decades. This bold volume charts the numerous ways in which its rules have magnified the power of northern interests and foreclosed on opportunities for human advancement by nations of the global south and east." — Ilene Grabel, Distinguished University Professor, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, US

"*Constraining Development* guides the reader through a wide range of topical areas making clear the systemic impacts that trade and investment agreements have on policy space. It is a useful contribution in that it synthesizes the issues into one eminently readable volume." — Brooke Güven, Senior legal researcher at the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, US

This book explores the ways that trade and investment treaties constrain domestic policy making. It draws a common thread through trade- and investment-related areas to show how the promises of the current international legal regime have not come to fruition and to offer new options for countries negotiating new treaties.

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Acknowledgments; List of Abbreviations; 1. Constraining Policy Space: How Global Trade Rules Conflict with National Development Goals; 2. Modern Trade Agreements, Industrial Policy and Development Sovereignty; 3. Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property, Investment Rules and Access to Medicines; 4. Land Grabs, Land Governance and International Investment Commitments; 5. Capital Flow Regulation and Trade Agreements: An Empirical Investigation; 6. The Emerging Role of International Investment Agreements in Sovereign Debt Restructuring; 7. Trade and Investment Policy for Climate Change and the Energy Transition; 8. Conclusion: A Way Forward; References; Index.

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Rachel Denae Thrasher is Researcher and Trade Policy Coordinator at the Global Development Policy Center at Boston University.

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