



International Trade and Food Security: Exploring Collective Food Security in Asia (NUS Centre for International Law series)

Michael Ewing-Chow, Melanie Vilarasau Slade

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'If you care about food security in Asia and particularly rice and world trade, buy this book. The best authors in the business (legal, academic and private sector) have contributed to its success with 12 treatises on core issues. I complement the editors of this compendium, Michael Ewing-Chow and Melanie Vilarasau Slade, for their intellectual courage in bringing these experts to contribute to one book. The technical side of these issues have been kept at a minimum wherever possible for the general reader. Each chapter relates to the others and guides us to some conclusions and a call to action.'

- Milo Hamilton, Firstgrain, US

'This is a complete recipe for global food security as the most credible way forward in a world of continuously uncertain food supplies. Today the overall intact agricultural production potential appears mainly threatened by location-specific climate change challenges and by both national and international food policy governance failures. Hence, the role of trade and of trade rules is all the more important, as credibly emphasised by the authors' consequent advocacy for a removal of food trade barriers as part of a more coherent poverty strategy and towards collective food security.'

- Christian Häberli, Bern University, Switzerland

'Food security is one of the key challenges the world faces. The demand for food will increase as our population goes up from 7 billion to 9 billion. Global warming and an increasingly erratic weather pattern will have an impact on food production. It is in this context that I welcome this important book. The editors have rightly invited us to refocus our minds from self-sufficiency to collective food security.'

- Tommy Koh, Chairman of the Governing Board Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Food security is one of the greatest challenges of our time. The food price crisis of 2008 exposed the vulnerabilities of the global food system. Governments across Asia exacerbated the crisis by imposing export restrictions based on a policy of self-sufficiency.

This book assesses whether self-sufficiency is an adequate response to the food security challenges we face. Pricing volatility drives isolationism at a time when climate change and increasingly uncertain weather patterns make it difficult for any single nation to guarantee adequate food production for itself.

Through a collection of commissioned studies which draw upon the experience of leading experts and scholars in trade, investment, law, economics, and food policy, this book analyses the impact of this trend on the most essential crop in the Asian region rice.

It suggests that food security policy should be reconceptualised: from the national to the regional and even the global level. It also provides its own proposals as to how this new paradigm of collective food security should be understood and developed.

The book calls for a new conversation in the region, acknowledging that the challenges we face are global

and the solutions must be found in collective action. This state-of-the-art study will appeal to lawyers, economists and political scientists, as well as trade and food security specialists by providing expert analyses and enlightening solutions for the future.

Contributors: C. Boonekamp, R.M. Briones, R. Clarete, D. Dixit, M. Ewing-Chow, L.A. Jackson, J. Jackson Ewing, J. McVitty, E. Rogerson, J. Tijaja, C.P. Timmer, M. Vilarasau Slade

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