

論文要旨

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論文題目	Exposing Trade Myths in the Era of Trumponomics and Brexit (国際貿易・サプライチェーンのもたらす経済効果と米国トランプの 保護貿易政策および英国 EU 離脱後の貿易政策効果の検証)
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論文の要旨

Despite a long-term increase in consumer welfare, free trade continues to be a topic of heated debate. It has gained new prominence with the election of Donald J. Trump as US president. His protectionist platform promised to 'Make America Great Again' by withdrawing or renegotiating 'bad' trade agreements.

Protectionism is a politically successful strategy despite evidence that it is a self-defeating trade policy, weakens the economy and leads to a reduced standard of living. It ignores the complexities and dynamics of the global market, likely retaliation by other nations and the cost borne by American consumers and businesses.

This thesis uses business examples to show the complexity and benefit of global supply chains, challenging the idea that increased protectionism can strengthen the economy. It shows how politicians either don't understand or misrepresent the dynamics of the economy and that past protectionist policies have failed to achieve their stated objectives. Using the examples of the boycotting of oil palm products and the local food movement, it shows how self-serving special interest groups use environmental and social welfare arguments to influence consumers and activists to support intervention in the market, which goes against both their own best interests and those whom they are trying to 'help', and how unfiltered prices lead to better environmental outcomes, and higher standards of living for both producers and consumers.

Governments sign Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to obtain economic benefits and to further their foreign policy objectives. Although there has been a significant reduction in tariffs since the implementation of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

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(GATT), more recently, a proliferation of agreements has increased business transaction costs. In addition, the growing focus on non-tariff trade barriers has provided opportunities for special interest groups to reduce competition by tilting regulations in their favor.

Ultimately, trade agreements are driven by two competing objectives: the economic free trade argument for reciprocal access to markets versus the mercantilist political desire to increase exports and reduce imports. While free trade still maximizes overall economic benefits today, politicians generally craft trade policy that puts the interests of producers ahead of consumers. The best counterbalance is to reduce the scope of trade agreements to focus on terms that actually reduce trade barriers.