

Model WTO 2027

30th edition

7–13 April 2027

Our Partners

UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

University of St.Gallen

world trade institute

McGill UNIVERSITY

Contents

01	Vision	4
02	Outline	5
03	Role of Participants	6
04	Application Process	7
05	Next Steps after Acceptance	8
06	Provisional Week Outline	9
07	Participation Packages	10
08	Testimonials	11
09	Gallery	12
10	Board	13
11	Advisory Board	14

Vision

Concept

The Model WTO is a **student-run initiative** at the **University of St. Gallen** hosting the **largest and oldest** simulation of **World Trade Organization** negotiations worldwide, split up between the **WTO headquarters** in **Geneva** and the **University of St. Gallen**. Every year since 1997, students – the leaders of tomorrow – from across the globe are invited to Switzerland to exchange creative ideas and discuss the future of international trade policy in the exceptional context of the World Trade Organization. Participants will also visit the **UN headquarters** in Geneva.

Objectives

At Model WTO, participants do not just learn about international trade – they **experience it first-hand**. You'll explore today's **most pressing global trade issues** and step into the shoes of decision-makers shaping trade resolutions. With direct access to WTO experts, Model WTO offers an exclusive opportunity to sharpen your skills, expand your network, and gain **unique insights** into the world of international trade.

Model WTO goes far beyond the classroom. It's a space where knowledge is shared, cultures connect, and international students come together to exchange ideas. Most importantly, it empowers young people to take an active role in shaping the debates that matter most to our society.

Organisation

The upcoming conference will be held from **7 to 13 April 2027** at the WTO headquarters in Geneva and at the University of St. Gallen.

The conference is organised by ten students of the University of St. Gallen together with an advisory board of six international trade experts offering valuable insights to ensure a high-quality simulation. The debates during the conference will be led by a team of 12 students from the University of St. Gallen – the chairs – who prepared by completing a one-year university course on international trade law.

Outline

Topic
To be announced

Date
7–13 April 2027

Location
WTO headquarters, Geneva & University of St. Gallen

Participants
72 students studying at 45+ universities representing 40+ countries

Chairs
12 students from the University of St. Gallen

Advisory Board
6 international trade experts

Organisation Team
10 students from the University of St. Gallen

Role of Participants

Explaining Delegates, Committees and Chairs

Delegates
As one of about 70 conference participants you will assume the role of a delegate of one of the countries. Your main contribution is made during the negotiations of committee resolutions during which the delegates are to defend the views and interests of the country they represent.

Head Delegates
Head delegates will be chosen from the pool of delegates. They are responsible for aligning the position of each country's delegation for the debates and negotiations. Applications for head delegate will open at a later stage – details to follow.

Committees
The committees work on different subtopics.

Chairs
The chairpersons have done a one-year university course to prepare them for their role as leaders of the committees and the negotiation in general.

Countries
The countries will be represented by a delegation, which represents the country's unique interest regarding the subtopics in the committees.

72
Delegates

12
Countries, with 6 delegates each including 1 head delegate

12
Chairs, who completed a one-year University of St. Gallen course

6
Committees, with 2–3 head delegates, led by 2–3 chairpersons

Application Process

Application round 1

Round 1 is the first step towards your participation in the Model WTO conference 2027! We would like to receive:

- **A motivation letter** (max. 500 words), specifying your personal interest in diplomacy and international trade
- **A concise CV**
- You are also free to share information on your **extracurriculars** or **job experience**

Applications are handled through **MyMUN** and are reviewed on a **rolling basis** - apply early to secure your spot!

Application round 2

If you make it through the first round, the second and last round awaits. Here you may be asked to write an essay. The topic of the essay as well as the specifics will be made available to you once you have passed the first round.

We kindly ask you to complete the essay **within one week** of our notification of your passing round 1.

Afterwards we can hopefully notify you about your participation in the Model WTO 2027 conference.

Model WTO conference 2027

Applications open
4 October 2026

Evaluation round 1
On a rolling basis

Results round 1 & release of essay topic
1 week after your application

Hand-in essay
Within 1 week of round 1 selection

Final result
1–2 weeks after your application

Application window closes
17 January 2027

Next Steps after Acceptance

After the Acceptance of the Invitation Letter

After the acceptance for the conference, you must submit the payment for the participation fee within one week.

Subsequently, all 72 participants will be asked to provide us with their country/committee preferences, and will be allocated accordingly.

Approximately one month prior to the conference, a webinar will be held for all the participants to provide them with additional information.
Furthermore, our team stands at your disposal at any time for questions regarding the next steps and to assist you with your visa application if necessary.

Committees

Delegates will be allocated to one of six committees that will explore issues relating to the topic chosen for the 30th edition of Model WTO. Further updates can be found on our website and on social media.



Acceptance of invitation → **Payment of the fee** → **Committee allocation** → **Webinar information session** → **Start of the conference**

Provisional Week Outline

7 April	8 April	9 April	10 April	11 April	12 April	13 April
Arrivals	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
	Opening ceremony + speakers	Debating	Country delegation meeting	Free time	UN visit	WTO speaker event
	Agenda setting		Debating			
	Campus tour		Photoshoot			
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Train St. Gallen – Geneva + check-in	Lunch	Lunch
	Debating	Debating	Debating	Planned-out afternoon	Mission visits	Feedback sessions
	Head delegate meeting					Closing ceremony
	Free time	Free time	Free time		Free time	Free time
Welcome session + dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
Free time	Free time	Free time	MWTO party	Free time	Drinks	Drinks

Participation Packages

Make the most of your Model WTO participation with the **All-Inclusive option**. We have arranged everything you need for a comfortable stay and we even secured special deals so staying **one week in Switzerland is as cheap as it gets** for you. This way you will stay and eat with the other participants giving you a better chance to connect personally.

The **SG (St. Gallen) and GV (Geneva) options** offer the same benefits as the **All-Inclusive option** but give you flexibility regarding accommodation if you only need it in one of the cities.

The **Light option** allows you to participate in the conference but accommodation, food, transportation, etc. are your responsibility and financial risk.

If you need flexibility regarding accommodation or food, for example because of strict diet restrictions, **contact us** and we will find a solution together.

Light	SG	GV	All-Inclusive
Conference participation only	Conference participation + **Everything included** • Only St. Gallen accommodation • Breakfast, lunch & dinner • Train ticket from St. Gallen to Geneva • Model WTO hoodie • Public transport ticket for St. Gallen & Geneva • Participation certificate	Conference participation + **Everything included** • Only Geneva accommodation • Breakfast, lunch & dinner • Train ticket from St. Gallen to Geneva • Model WTO hoodie • Public transport ticket for St. Gallen & Geneva • Participation certificate	Conference participation + **Everything included** • Full accommodation • Breakfast, lunch & dinner • Train ticket from St. Gallen to Geneva • Model WTO hoodie • Public transport ticket for St. Gallen & Geneva • Participation certificate
	Carefree option: we arrange special deals for you, so your stay is as cheap as possible		
79 CHF	**699 CHF**	**599 CHF**	**799 CHF**

Testimonials

Beyond policy and diplomacy, the best part was the people. […] Different cultures, perspectives, ambitions, yet somehow all connected by curiosity, debate, and shared exhaustion from negotiations.
– Janhavi Sawant



It was a privilege to take part in an experience that offered so much room to learn, grow, and engage with complex global issues in practice.
– Norbert Jakubek





As a Law student, I couldn't have asked for something more eye-opening, meeting 70+ students from over 30 countries worldwide, each with different perspectives, reminded me how powerful and important law is in shaping our lives. **– Roberta Tassinari**



Gallery













Meet the Board















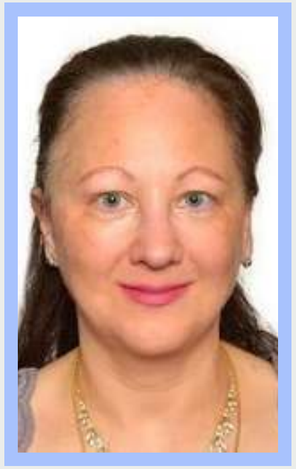


Advisory Board



Dr. Reto Malacrida

- Legal Counsellor and Head of the Government Procurement and Competition Policy Group at the WTO
- Professor at the University of St. Gallen



Dr. Theresa Carpenter

- Economic Affairs Officer for the UN
- Former Executive Director of the Graduate Institute's Centre for Trade and Economic Integration



Bernard Kuiten

- Head of External Relations at the WTO
- Former First Secretary at the WTO Unit of the Dutch Permanent Representation in Geneva



Matthew Wilson

- Ambassador of Barbados to the United Nations, WTO and other International Organizations in Geneva
- Ambassador of Barbados to Switzerland, Italy and Austria



Dr. Nicolás Albertoni

- Former Deputy Foreign Minister of Uruguay (2022-2025)
- Visiting Fellow at the Georgetown Americas Institute, Georgetown University



Prof. Dr. Klaus Dingwerth

- Professor of Political Science at the University of St. Gallen with a special focus on the political theory of the globalized and digital society
- Academic Director of the Bachelor's programme in International Affairs at the University of St. Gallen