The Economic Impact of International Commercial Arbitration

Prof. Dr. Jordi Paniagua¹

University of Valencia (Spain)

3rd Regional International Arbitration Conference Sydney, March 17th, 2021

This is not an ADB material. The views expressed in this document are the views of the author/s and/or their organizations and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank, or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy and/or completeness of the material's contents, and accepts no responsibility for any direct or indirect consequence of their use or reliance, whether wholly or partially. Please feel free to contact the authors directly should you have queries.

¹jordi.paniagua@uv.es http://uv.es/jorpaso2





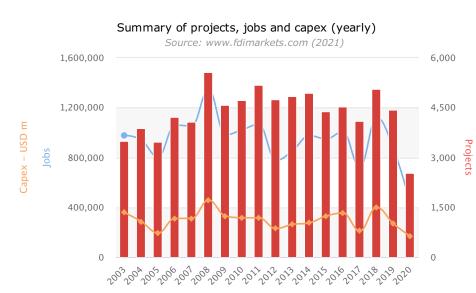
Economic impact of International Arbitration

Myburgh & Paniagua (2021): "Welfare effects of International Arbitration"

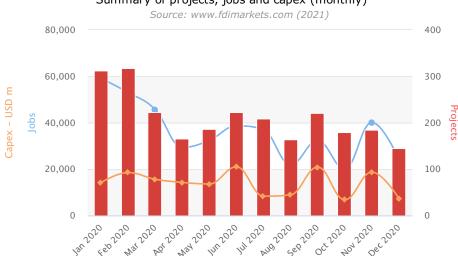
- Partial effects literature
 - Ratifying the NY convention on arbitration increases trade with members (30%) and creates trades with non-members
 - \bullet NY convention on arbitration has increased FDI bilateral flows by 77%
 - UNCITRAL Model Laws (arbitration) has increased FDI flows by 67% and trade flows by 7% (on average)
- Effect on consumers & producers
 - Consumer prices have sunk by 7%
 - Producers prices have increased by 6%
- Selfect on welfare (GDP increase):
 - World: 13%
 - NYC members: 15%
 - OECD: 8%
 - South Pacific: 11%



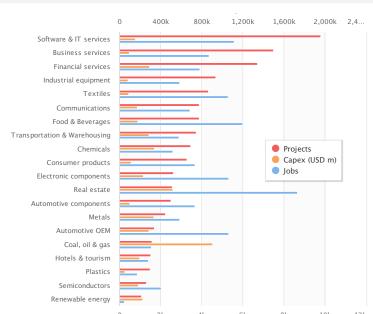
FDI in the South Pacific: trends



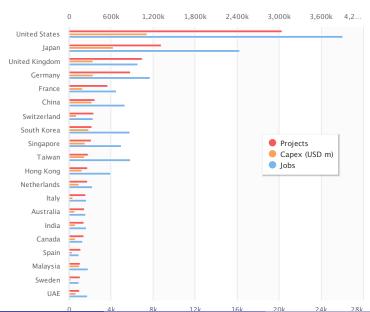
Summary of projects, jobs and capex (monthly)



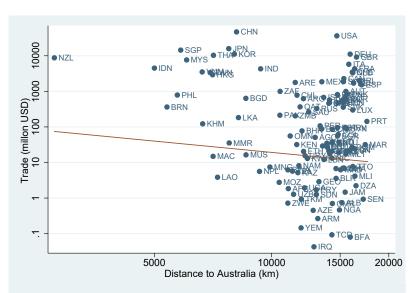
FDI in the South Pacific: Sectors



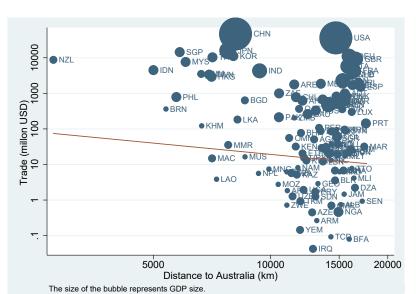
FDI in the South Pacific: Country of origin



Trade in Australia 🗊

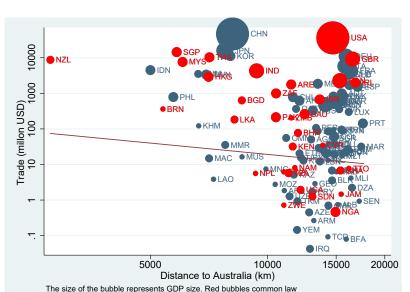


Trade in Australia 🗊



200

Trade in Australia 🗊



200

The Gravity Equation

Trade volumes follow the law of gravity:

$$FDI_{i o j} = \underbrace{\frac{GDP_iGDP_j}{GDP_{world}}}_{ ext{Economic size}} imes \underbrace{\left(\frac{ ext{Contractual environment}}{ ext{Distance}_{i o j}}
ight)}_{ ext{Erictions}}$$

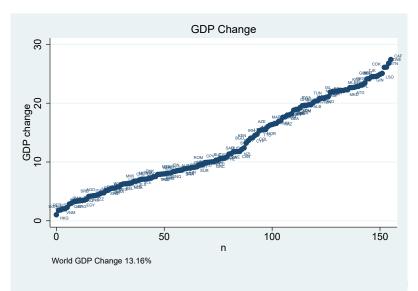
- FDI & trade increase with economic activity (more consumers & producers)
- FDI & trade fall with certain frictions:
 - Natural: Distance & History & Culture & Language
 - Human-made: Contractual & institutional environment

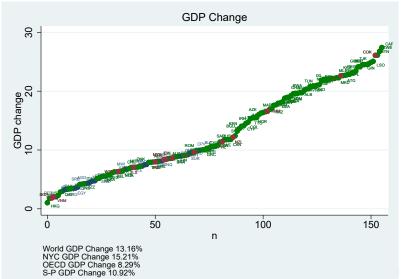
What is International Commercial Arbitration?

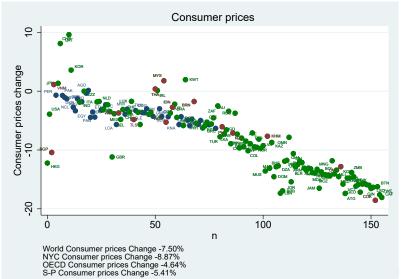


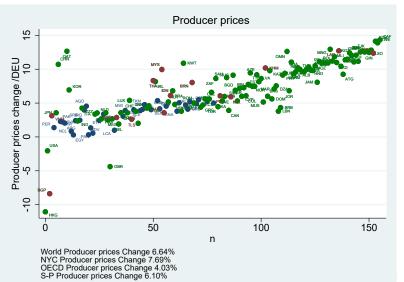
Mechanisms by which arbitration affects FDI & trade

- Arbitration provides an effective and predictable dispute settlement mechanism:
 - Flexible, confidential & final:
 - Award can be executed worldwide
 - Increases the trust between parties:
 - High cost of engaging in nuisance suits
 - Reduces the uncertainty of litigation in domestic courts in trade disputes:
 - Choice of law









International Business Promotion

Countries have three basic ways to escape the "gravity push" and promote trade and FDI

- Get closer
 - Play for gravity (not against it): Common language, historical links
- @ Grow bigger
 - Seek comparative advantages & economic growth
 - Human capital, knowledge, innovation
- Be smarter!
 - Reduce human-made frictions
 - Provide a better contractual environment via arbitration

Thanks!

Thanks and acknowledgments*

Contact details:

- www.uv.es/jorpaso2
- jordi.paniagua@uv.es

*Much of the research leading on which this lecture draws has received funding from the Spanish Government MINECO and the European Regional Development Fund (RTI2018-100899-B-I00), the Generalitat Valenciana (GV/2020/052), the World Bank, UNIDROIT, and the Asia Development Bank.

Background

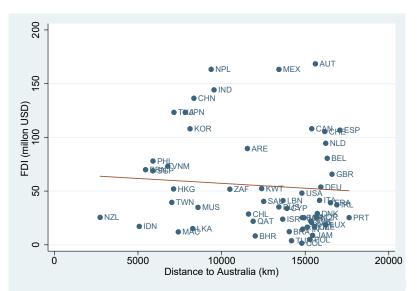
Trade

- Casella, A. (1996). "On market integration and the development of institutions: the case of international commercial arbitration" European Economic Review
- Berkowitz et al (2006). "Trade, law, and product complexity" Review of Economics and Statistics
- Moenius & Berkowitz (2011) "Law, trade, and development" Journal of Development Economics
- Gil-Pareja, S., Llorca-Vivero, R. & Paniagua, J. (2020). "Trade Law and Trade Flows". World Economy
- Myburgh, A. & Paniagua, J. (2021) "Trade-Induced Welfare effects of International Arbitration"

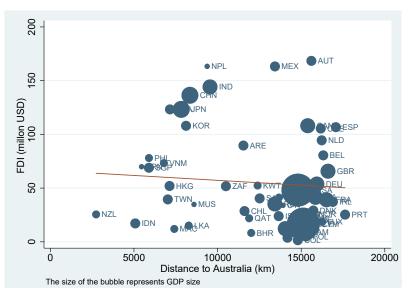
FDI

- Myburgh & Paniagua (2016) "Does international commercial arbitration promote foreign direct investment?" Journal of Law and Economics
- Myburgh & Paniagua (2016) "The impact of UNCITRAL on Foreign Direct Investment" 50th Anniversary UNCITRAL Congress

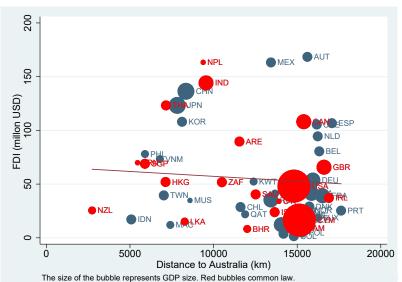
FDI in Australia Back



FDI in Australia Back



FDI in Australia Back



Sydney via zoom 2021