

## GLOBALIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA

The approach of Latin American countries to preferential trade agreements (PTAs) is a fascinating topic. There is a rich history of policymakers using PTAs to pursue different economic and political models of integration. What really stands out is the diversity of approaches and attitudes to the use of PTAs. While some countries have been rule-makers and have made innovative attempts to introduce new issues, others have been reluctant to use PTAs. In response to the growing interest in and politicization of PTAs in the wider public – including renewed consideration of ‘with whom to trade’ – this book brings together scholars from inside and outside Latin America to address the past, present and future challenges associated with PTAs. The contributions, from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds, offer new insights into issues related to the design, diffusion and impact of PTAs. This title is also available as open access on Cambridge Core.

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# Globalization in Latin America

## THE LAW, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS OF PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENTS

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## Preface

Latin American countries' approach to PTAs is a fascinating topic. There is a rich history of how policymakers have used trade agreements to advocate different economic and political models of integration. What we observe is an important variation across time and space. What really stands out is the diversity of approaches and attitudes towards using PTAs. While some countries have been rule-makers and engaged in innovative attempts to introduce new topics, others have been reluctant to use reciprocal trade agreements. The landscape of trade agreements has been further affected by regional integration attempts in the Southern and Central American regions and the existing interests of outside trading partners, such as the US and Europe, not to mention China's non-traditional approach to trade cooperation. Finally, we have noticed an increasing interest and politicization in the wider public when it comes to different treaty projects and the question of 'with whom to trade'.

This project brings together scholars from within and outside the region to address some past, current and future challenges related to PTAs. The contributions offer, from various disciplinary backgrounds, new insights related to questions of the design, diffusion and effects of PTAs. Some of the contributions focus on single countries, on single issue areas; others take a more comparative approach. We thank everyone involved in this collaborative effort and hope that the partnerships developed throughout the process will generate many follow-up studies on the history and the future of trade relations in Latin America.

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