

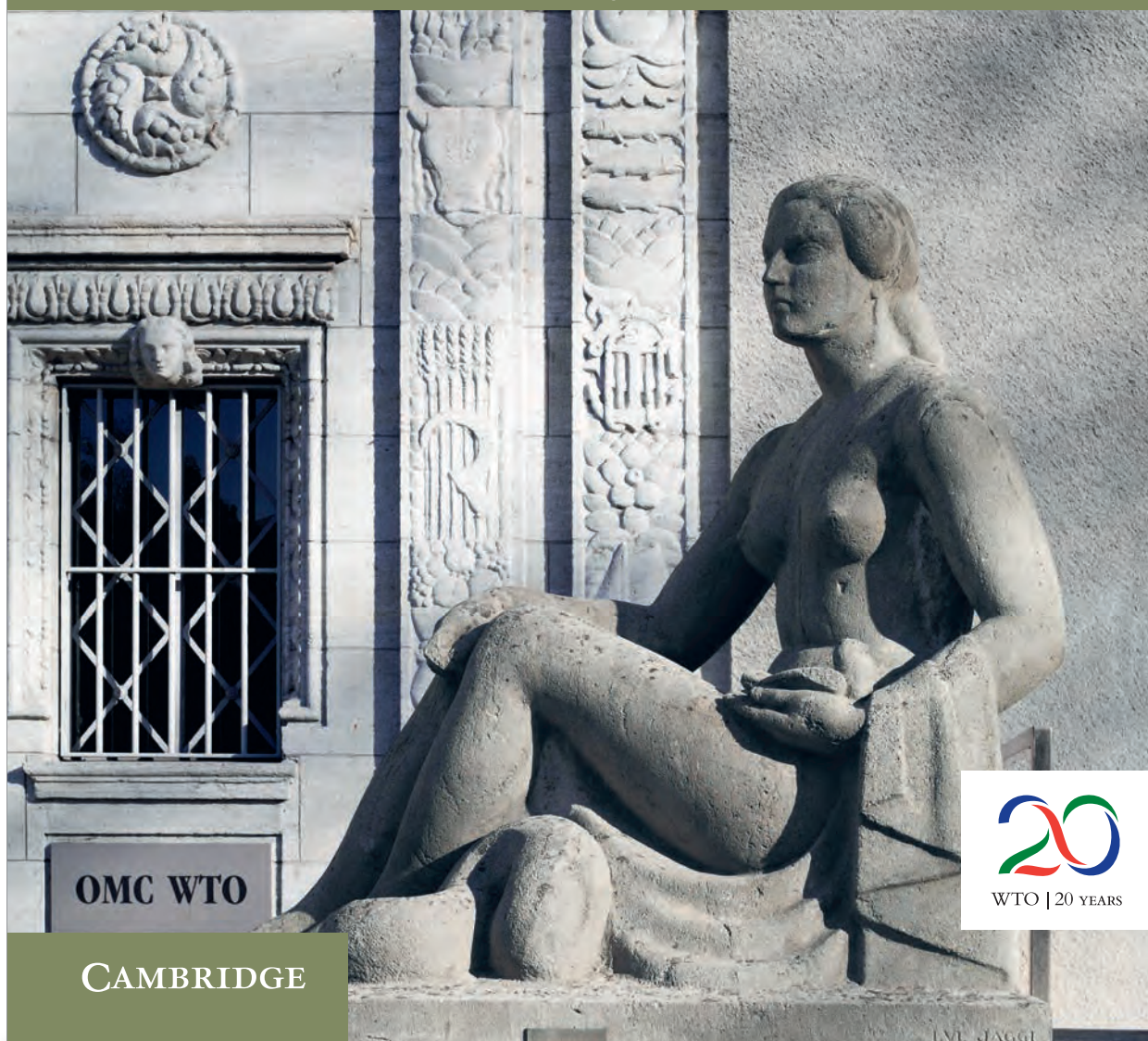


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A History of Law and Lawyers in the GATT/WTO

The Development of the Rule of Law in
the Multilateral Trading System

Edited by Gabrielle Marceau



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About this publication

How did a treaty that emerged in the aftermath of the Second World War and which barely survived its early years evolve into one of the most influential organizations in international law? This unique book brings together original contributions from an unprecedented number of eminent current and former GATT and WTO staff members, including many current and former Appellate Body members, to trace the history of law and lawyers in the GATT/WTO and explore how the nature of legal work has evolved over the institution's sixty-year history. In doing so, it paints a fascinating portrait of the development of the rule of law in the multilateral trading system, and allows some of the most important personalities in GATT and WTO history to share their stories and reflect on the WTO's remarkable journey from a 'provisionally applied treaty' to an international organization defined by its commitment to the rule of law.

Contributions from a wide range of current and former GATT and WTO staff, as well as members of the Appellate Body, provide unprecedented insights into legal work in the multilateral trading system, as experienced by a wide range of persons.



"The establishment of the WTO in 1995 is widely regarded as a major milestone in modern international law. As our Organization marks its twentieth anniversary, this book paints an interesting and sometimes surprising portrait of the evolution of the role that law and lawyers have played throughout the history of the multilateral trading system. [...] I commend this book to anyone with an interest in international law or international trade. It is a fascinating look back at a crucial element of the trading system – and one which should inspire us as we look forward to the challenges ahead."

Roberto Azevêdo
WTO Director-General



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