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THE IMPACT OF FREE TRADE ON THE ENVIRONMENT: A PROBLEM FOR THE WTO TRADING SYSTEM

The primary function of the WTO as a multilateral organisation is to regulate trade among the Member States, and this also implies discussion on issues with different set of values, such as the affect of free trade on the environment. The discussion concerning the 'impact of free trade on the environment' revolves around two planes, i) the principal objective of the WTO i.e., the promotion of free trade among its Member Nations, together with ii) the complex values compounded, such as sustainable development, the pursuit of which obviously goes alongside. It is ironical that within the WTO trading system, there are several agreements promoting free trade, but no explicit wide-ranging agreement, supporting environment-related issues on a parallel basis. While the WTO tries to promote free trade along with sustainable development, however, what adds to the biased positioning are the competing interests of the Member States in practice. The contradiction in practice is further deepened, whenever the occasion arises for the multinationals to make a choice between trade and environment standards. From the analysis in this paper, it can be observed that the legislative bodies and the judicial bodies of many of the Member States follow an unbalanced approach, thus leading to a dilemma over the preference between trade and environment. This presentation further draws attention to a question, whether the lack of a clear basis to make choices between the two objectives, also obstructs the evolution of a general normative set up of environmental values on a global basis. The issue of free trade and the environment sustainability, taken together, also touches the institutional character of the WTO, the extent of compatibility between the two objectives.

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СЕРВІСНА ФУНКЦІЯ ДІЯЛЬНОСТІ ПОЛІЦІЇ: ДОСВІД НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ПОЛІЦІЇ ІЗРАЇЛЮ ТА УРОКИ ДЛЯ УКРАЇНИ

Сучасна історія України та Ізраїлю склалася таким чином, що має багато спільного, а саме: потреба побудови сучасної демократичної