This concluding chapter discusses international economic law. When discussing ‘international economic law’ one is addressing the international regimes that regulate international trade, investment, and economic development. The multilateral and bilateral treaties in these areas have become the focal point for the global economy today. International economic law developed rapidly since the end of the Second World War, when the 1944 Bretton Woods Accords established the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank), placing financial institutions at the heart of the post-war settlement. Meanwhile, the law on international trade grew around the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), but today centres on the World Trade Organization in Geneva. International investment law has no equivalent overarching institution, but rather exists as a dense web of bilateral investment treaties (BITs) which have emerged in the last three decades.
20. International economic law

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