

# Some Ideas for Research Questions

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# Group 1: Analyse the impact of a RTA of your choice

- RTAs have two possible effects on trade: trade creation and trade diversion
- Using your own sample (select time, country coverage and level of aggregation) assess what is the impact on trade of the creation of a RTA
- Hints will be discussed in class after the group decides the RTAs of interest

# Group 2: Analysing the impact of RTAs through alternative specifications

- start with A. Rose data base and try to assess whether there a similar effect of WTO on trade when only trade in manufacturing is concerned (use WITS to get this data)
- Assess the impact of introducing fixed effects (build country-specific, country pair and time dummies)

# Group 3: The effect of movement of workers

- Read the paper by Jansen and Piermartini (2005)
- Their database will be provided for imports only
- Could you assess whether the results that temporary movement of people increase imports also hold for exports ?
- Hint: use WITS to get the data, note the only exporter is the US

# Group 4: The impact of disaster on trade

- Read Gassebner, Keck and Teh (2006)
- Their database for the year 2000 will be provided (excluding the democracy variable)
- They claim that more democratic countries cope better with disasters. Could you assess whether this claim is true?
- Hint: Use the data for democracy level provided in the file “DemocracyPolityIV2000.xls” ? And build the interaction variable as explained in the paper.

# Group 5: Introduce bilateral tariff

- Introduce in Rose's database bilateral tariff data extracted from TRAINS, using WITS
- You may select the time period
  1. Assess what is the impact of tariffs on trade
  2. Build the resistance terms for tariffs using the same formula used for distances