



# Health-IIA

A research collaboration for Healthier  
International Investment Agreements

## Health-IIA Round-table on safeguarding health in trade and investment agreements

Co-hosted by Monash University and The University of Sydney

International trade and investment agreements form part of government economic policy approaches. However, industry actors have used these to dispute health policy measures in critical areas, including tobacco control and access to medicines. This presents a challenge to government efforts to achieve policy objectives related to both health and economy, with reference to sustainable development. The inclusion of health safeguards in trade and investment agreements is seen one of the solutions; however, their adoption has been limited and inconsistent.

### This round-table will include presentation of new evidence on:

- 1) Best-practice options to successfully safeguard health in investment treaties, and
- 2) Learnings regarding policy processes that support the inclusion of health safeguards.

### The aim of this session will be to:

- Showcase policy innovation at the interface between trade, investment and health policy
- Learn from regional experiences of engagement between investment and health sectors, in research and policy
- Discuss opportunities to strengthen multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral research and engagement for improved coherence between trade, investment and health policy

This will be a hybrid event. Registration is essential, and in-person seats are limited. Please [click on this link](#) to register and express your interest in participating in-person or online.

### About the hosts

*Health-IIA - A research collaboration for healthier international investment agreements* is a multidisciplinary collaboration of academics and policy actors, working to understand how to better safeguard health in International Investment Agreements (IIAs). This collaboration brings together legal, public health and global policy scholars with data analysts, and is supported by an International Advisory Group comprised of experts and practitioners from around the globe.

The roundtable will be co-hosted by Prof Anne Marie Thow (University of Sydney) and Dr Elizabeth Sheargold (Monash University).

Roundtable discussants will include: Thai International Health Policy Programme (Ministry of Public Health, Thailand), Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network, McCabe Centre for Law and Cancer, Centre for Good Governance in Tobacco Control, UK Centre for Inclusive Trade Policy, United Nations Trade and Development, and others.