

3.3 Patents and Technology Transfer through Trade and the Role of Regional Trade Agreements

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1. We have no solid evidence about whether TPP and regional trade agreements with strong IPR chapters have exceptional impacts on innovation and technology transfer. More research is needed.
2. There are some positive policy steps designers of RTAs could take to enhance flows of technology within the agreement, such as changes in patent rules and increasing flows of skilled labor.
3. It is important to work toward more open access to the results of basic science.
4. Other technology-related policies in TPP may be more important for innovation than intellectual property rights.

Intended audience: international organizations, NGOs, policymakers