

5.3. Dual Use of Standardization Strategies: Promoting Regional Integration and/or global Markets

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1. Standards are important determinants of international trade flows. What defines an “international standard” however remains a challenge. Standards need to be developed outside the nation-centric model so that they can meet regulators’ requirements, increase competition, and provide choice for consumers.
2. Standards can support policy actions, including trade and competition policy, technical regulation, consumer safety, and environmental protections. And as governments are under pressure to assist domestic firms — and with the decline of tariffs — the use of non-tariff measures such as standards may increase.
3. We need research on how environmental protection measures get incorporated into trade agreements .
4. We need research on the implications of the TPP chapter 8 which calls for parties to consider methods to provide additional transparency in the development of technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures.
5. Research needs to address emerging mega-issues, i.e. the vast emerging standardization needs for mega-systems of IoT, 5G, smart cities, etc.
6. Standards now operate in an increasingly complex environment which forces us to rethink the role of standards in global trade agreements