

Chapter 8 Preferential Trade Agreements and Human Rights Abusers

Abstract

Whether human rights treaties provide the international community with an enforceable mechanism for penalizing human rights abusers is another controversial and widely discussed issue. A particular point of contention is that some studies claim preferential trade agreements that contain clauses which enforce a reduction of economic benefits to human rights abusers can, in some important instances, help to improve human rights conditions in beneficiary countries. Chapter 8 examines the dampening effect of human rights laws on the conditions of human rights.