

# Melbourne Empirical Trade Conference

**July 23-25, 2026**  
**University of Melbourne**

**Venue:**

[The Spot](#), Room 4012  
Faculty of Business and Economics  
University of Melbourne

**Sponsors:**

University of Melbourne, Monash University  
<http://www.freit.org/METC>



Organizers:

Laura Puzzello, Monash University  
Reshad Ahsan, University of Melbourne  
Maria Ptashkina, University of Melbourne  
Tibor Besedeš, Georgia Institute of Technology

Program Committee:

Laura Puzzello, Reshad Ahsan, Maria Ptashkina

## DAY 1: Thursday, July 23, 2026

8:45 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome and opening remarks ➤ <a href="#">Serge da Motta Veiga, Dean, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Melbourne</a>

### Session 1

Chair: Reshad Ahsan, University of Melbourne

9:15 – 10:15 a.m. **Environmental Responses to Foreign Standards: Technical Barriers to Trade and the Geography of US Emissions**

➤ [Sergio de Holanda Rocha, Monash University](#)

*Discussant: Yusuke Kuroishi, Hitotsubashi University*

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. **Break – Morning tea**

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Cross-border Threats to Health: Impacts of Trade Liberalization on Nutritional Transition**

➤ [Jaerim Choi, Yonsei University](#)

*Discussant: Krisztina Orban (Monash University)*

11:30 – 11:45 a.m. **Break**

## Session 2: Keynote

Chair: Phil McCalman, University of Melbourne

11:45 – 12:45 p.m.

**The Cost of Buying American**

- [Matilde Bombardini](#), Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

**Lunch**

## Session 3

Chair: Sergio de Holanda Rocha, Monash University

1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

**Shaken Foundations: How Earthquakes Reshape Japanese Global Supply Chains**

- [Yuting Chen](#), Yokohama National University

*Discussant: Sebastian Heise, Federal Reserve Bank of New York*

2:45 – 3:00 p.m.

**Break**

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Product Quality and the Mode of Entry to Foreign Markets**

- [Chenyang Yang](#), Singapore Management University

*Discussant: Emmanuel Murray Leclair, University of Melbourne*

4:00 – 4:15 p.m.

**Break – Afternoon tea**

## Session 4

Chair: Wenxiao Wang, University of Adelaide

4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

**After Offshoring: Which Skills Do Firms Seek Next?**

- [Jooyoun Park](#), Kent State University

*Discussant: Chen Liu, National University of Singapore*

6:00 p.m.

**Conference Dinner (Invitation Only)**

## DAY 2: Friday, July 24, 2026

### Session 5

Chair: Sergio de Holanda Rocha, Monash University

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.      **Domestic Trade Costs, Input Sourcing, and the Value Added Content of Exports: Evidence from China's Inland Waterways**

➤ [Wenxiao Wang](#), University of Adelaide

*Discussant: Enze Xie, Zhejiang University*

10:30 – 11:00 a.m.      **Break – Morning tea**

### Session 6

Chair: Phil McCalman, University of Melbourne

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.      **Trade Disruptions and the Organization of Supply Chains**

➤ [Sebastian Heise](#), Federal Reserve Bank of New York

*Discussant: Yuting Chen, Yokohama National University*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.      **Lunch**

### Session 7

Chair: Reshad Ahsan, University of Melbourne

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.      **Global Spillovers of Environmental Policy: Evidence from Japan's Waste Exports**

➤ [Yusuke Kuroishi](#), Hitotsubashi University

*Discussant: Sergio de Holanda Rocha, Monash University*

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.      **Break**

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.      **Market Liberalization and Firm-Level Adaptation: Intra-Firm Reallocation and Quality-Related Adjustment in Chinese Exports**

➤ [Wanting Ouyang](#), Korea University

*Discussant: Chenying Yang, Singapore Management University*

3:15 – 3:45 p.m.      **Break – Afternoon tea**

## Session 8

Chair: Cong Pham, Deakin University

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

**Washing Away the US: Tariff Evasion Under China's Retaliatory Tariffs**

➤ [Enze Xie](#), Zhejiang University

*Discussant: Sifan Xue, Peking University*

## Day 3: Saturday, July 25, 2026

## Session 9

Chair: Reshad Ahsan, University of Melbourne

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

**Short-Run Boom, Long-Run Bust: The Dynamic Impact of U.S. Semiconductor Export Controls**

➤ [Sifan Xue](#), Peking University

*Discussant: Jaerim Choi, Yonsei University*

10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

**Break – Morning tea**

11:00 – 12:00 a.m.

**How Local Economies Recovered from Manufacturing Job Loss: The Case of China Shock**

➤ [Chen Liu](#), National University of Singapore

*Discussant: Jooyoun Park, Kent State University*

12:00 pm -

**Lunch (Invitation Only)**

*Adjourn Conference*