

WTO REFORM: WILL THERE BE A THIRD OPTION OTHER THAN A U.S. WITHDRAWAL AND A CHINA EXPULSION?

*Qingjiang Kong** & *Shuai Guo***

ABSTRACT

With an aim to solve the recent crisis of the World Trade Organization (hereinafter “WTO”), this paper examines the present proposals, especially with regards to a United States withdrawal solution and a China expulsion solution. It concludes that neither of these proposals is sufficient nor feasible for solving the problem. Therefore, this paper advocates five principles for the future WTO reform: first, reform should follow a neutral reform agenda; second, the existing WTO rules should be fully taken advantage of; third, reform should prioritize the way out of the Appellate Body impasse; fourth, the Doha Round should continue to be accomplished; and fifth, new multilateral rules should be formulated to keep the WTO relevant.

KEYWORDS: *WTO Reform, neutral reform agenda, existing WTO rules, Appellate Body, impasse, Doha Round*

* Professor, China University of Political Science and Law. The authors are grateful to the Editorial Team for the most helpful assistance in polishing the paper. Of course, all the errors and mistakes are those of the authors. The author can be reached at qkong2000@hotmail.com.

** PhD candidate, Leiden University Faculty of Law. The author can be reached at s.guo@law.leidenuniv.nl.