Susan Ariel Aaronson

Susan Ariel Aaronson is Research Professor at The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs and the former Minerva Chair at the National War College. She directs a project funded by the US Army on repression, civil conflict, and leadership tenure. Aaronson also directs a fellowship fund for students working on internet issues, the eBay Policy Scholars, and organizes seminar series on Internet issues. While at GWU, Aaronson has received grants from the MacArthur, Ford, Swiss National Science Foundation and Ford Motor Company for her work on internet freedom and trade, corruption, and business and human rights. Her current research focuses on WTO membership and conflict; repression, civil conflict and socio-economic outcomes; and on how trade agreements affect digital rights and Internet governance.

Dr. Aaronson is a frequent speaker on public understanding of globalization issues and international economic developments. She was a regular commentator on "All Things Considered" in 1994–1995, "Marketplace" from 1995–1998, and "Morning Edition" from 1998-2001. She has also appeared on CNN, the BBC, and PBS to discuss trade and globalization issues. Aaronson was a Guest Scholar in Economics at the Brookings Institution (1995–1999); and a Research Fellow at the World Trade Institute 2008-2012.

Dr. Aaronson is the Treasurer of Giganet and serves on the Advisory Board for Business-Human Rights. In recent years, she has been a pro-bono advisor to the UN Special Representative on Transnational Corporations and Human Rights, and the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. She has also consulted for the ILO; the World Bank; Free the Slaves; the Ford Foundation; the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative; the Progressive Policy Institute the Stanley Foundation; several corporations; and the governments of Canada, Belgium, and the Netherlands, among others.

Aaronson is the author of six books and numerous articles on trade, human rights, internet governance, and other issues related to globalization.

Current Research

- WTO membership and inter-state conflict
- Trade Agreements, Digital Rights and Internet Governance
- Repression, civil conflict and leadership tenure
- Repression, socio-economic outcomes and leadership tenure
- Making Trade Policy More Transparent and Accountable

Publications

Dr. Aaronson is the author of six books and numerous articles on trade, human rights, international investment; public private partnerships; globalization, corporate social responsibility; and public understanding of economic change. Her books include:

Trade Imbalance: The Struggle to Weigh Human Rights in Trade Policymaking (Cambridge University Press, 2007)

Taking Trade to the Streets: The Lost History of Public Efforts to Shape Globalization (University of Michigan Press, 2001)

Trade and the American Dream: A Social History of Postwar Trade Policy (University Press of Kentucky, 1996)

Her recent articles include:

"Data Protection and Digital Trade in the Wake of the NSA Revelations" (.pdf). *Intereconomics*. September 2013, Volume 48, Issue 5, pp 281-285.

- "Is More Trade Always Better? The WTO and Human Rights in Conflict Zones" (.pdf). Aaronson, Susan Ariel & Abouharb, M. Rodwan. *Journal of World Trade* 47, no. 5 (2013): 1091–1128.
- With Ian Higham, "Re-righting Business: John Ruggie and the Struggle to Develop International Human Rights Standards for Transnational Firms," (.pdf) Human Rights Quarterly, 36, (2013), pp. 333-364.
- "Does the WTO Help Nations Clean Up? The WTO as an Anticorruption Counterweight" (.pdf) Forthcoming, World Trade Review 2014
- With Rod Abouharb, "Is More Trade Always Better? The WTO and Human Rights in Conflict Zones," Journal of World TradeOctober 2013
- "Rethinking Intellectual Property Rights," International Economy Magazine, Fall 2012, 66-69.
- "Trade and the Internet: The risks and challenges of this new technology" (.pdf), The International Economy, Winter 2012, 75–77.
- Unexpected Bedfellows: The GATT, the WTO and Some Democratic Rights, International Studies Quarterly, 55:2, 379–408, June 2011.