

# The Caribbean Community Preferential Trade Agreement

## Citation for published version (APA):

Avila, G. T. (2019). *The Caribbean Community Preferential Trade Agreement: Is there a legal obligation to create trade ?*. Maastricht University. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20190201ga>

## Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2019

## DOI:

[10.26481/dis.20190201ga](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20190201ga)

## Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

## Please check the document version of this publication:

- A submitted manuscript is the version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
- The final author version and the galley proof are versions of the publication after peer review.
- The final published version features the final layout of the paper including the volume, issue and page numbers.

[Link to publication](#)

## General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal.

If the publication is distributed under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license above, please follow below link for the End User Agreement:

[www.umlib.nl/taverne-license](http://www.umlib.nl/taverne-license)

## Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at:

[repository@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:repository@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

providing details and we will investigate your claim.

Propositions  
belonging to the PhD dissertation

The Caribbean Community Preferential Trade Agreement: Is there a legal obligation  
to create trade?

by Ms. Gianni Avila

1. There is no conclusive evidence as to whether preferential trade agreements assist or hinder the general movement towards global free trade. Despite this, many WTO Members continue to opt for a more discriminatory and preferential approach to trade.
2. GATT Article XXIV and paragraph 2 (c) of the Enabling Clause outline the formation requirements for creating preferential trade agreements, but do not legally require countries to create trade.
3. The institutional regulation of preferential trade agreements contributes to greater transparency in international trade relations.
4. The CARICOM preferential trade agreement has resulted in limited trade gains, as the British Caribbean colonial paradigm continues to impose a one-dimensional internal and external trade policy on the CARICOM region.
5. CARICOM member states must overcome their intra-regional transportation deficiencies in order to maximize their trading potential.
6. Most CARICOM member states have been independent for less than 50 years. Nation-building in the era of a rules-based multilateral trading system and globalization remains a challenge for these small developing countries.

7. The regional platform provided by the CARICOM preferential trade agreement is a valuable tool that assists the CARICOM member states with their interactions on the international plane.
8. National political actors in the various CARICOM member states should equip themselves with a fuller understanding on the aims and instruments of regional integration in the Caribbean. Going forward, this can positively alter its pace and trajectory.
9. It is indeed true that some tasks seem impossible until they are completed.