

# Essays on international trade

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Propositions belonging to the Dissertation

**Essays on International Trade:  
The Role of Institutions and Imported Intermediate Inputs**

Gideon Onyewuchi Ndubuisi

1. A country's industry composition can shape the effect of capital controls on trade, with capital controls tending to lead to comparative disadvantage in external finance-dependent sectors (Chapter 2).
2. A country specializing in sectors that depend extensively on external finance may do well for itself by avoiding policies that restrict cross-border capital flows especially when the domestic credit market is underdeveloped (Chapter 2).
3. For countries intending to pursue export-led growth, policies promoting capital controls are incompatible with export-led growth (Chapter 2).
4. Domestic policies aimed at softening barriers to imports in order to facilitate access to world-class inputs are imperative for upgrading of African countries' manufacturing industries (Chapter 3).
5. Sourcing knowledge through imports from developing countries with similar levels of technology may be the most appropriate means of upgrading manufacturing industries across Africa.
6. Policy-makers in Africa must be aware of the options at hand: whereas sourcing inputs from other developing countries requires little additional absorptive capabilities to be built, sourcing inputs from advanced countries requires intensive investments in building absorptive capacities (Chapter 3).
7. Effective patent enforcement may lead to international specialization in R&D-intensive industries (Chapter 4).
8. Countries seeking to specialize in the production and export of higher quality products in R&D-intensive sectors require effective patent enforcement as a means of encouraging technology exchange and investment in those sectors (Chapter 4).
9. One of the ways patent enforcement affects economic growth and export success is through enhancing export quality.
10. There is no one size fits all argument. Countries must take into account their development and technological level in fashioning their patent protection regime.