

Twists and Turns in the TRIPS Journey

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Commissioned for the thirtieth anniversary of the WTO TRIPS Agreement, this article explores the differences between the TRIPS negotiators' goals of establishing the instrument and the final outcome as we experience today. Recognizing the impact of factors both internal and external to the TRIPS negotiations, the discussion focuses on three groups of WTO members: developed, developing, and least developed countries. The article concludes by exploring the positive and negative legacies of the TRIPS Agreement as the WTO enters its fourth decade.