

Chapter 19: Technological Advances and Economics in the Global Age: 19-4e World Trade Organization
Book Title: The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History 7th Edition Update, AP® Edition
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19-4e World Trade Organization

In 1995 the world's major traders established the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** (An international body established in 1995 to foster and bring order to international trade. (p. 580)) , dedicated to reducing barriers and enforcing international agreements. With the accession of Russia as its 157th member in 2012, the largest economy not to be included was Iran. The WTO had many critics and regularly encountered street protests during its ministerial meetings. Some protesters rallied against neoliberalism and claimed that the organization's idea of free trade enabled low-cost foreign manufacturers to attract business and shrink job opportunities in richer states; others demanded continuing tariff protection for local farmers.

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