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UFRGS' professor proposes Consumer Global Compact at UN event

Director of the Faculty of Law, Cláudia Lima Marques was a speaker at the UNCTAD Forum held online in June

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Faculty and director at the Faculty of Law and director of the Center of German and European Studies (UFRGS/PUCRS/DAAD), Cláudia Lima Marques proposed the creation of a UN Consumer Global Compact, at the United Nations Trade Forum 2021 [*UN Trade Forum 2021: Towards a green and inclusive recovery*], in the conference held on June 15, in the session she participated, which proposed actions and public policies in view of the impact of international trade effects on countries, with inclusive proposals in different areas. The aim of the forum is to prepare guidelines for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) for the next four years.

At the Forum's session entitled "Towards a more inclusive world: what can trade do?", the international researcher in the Consumer Law field assessed that, in the digital world and its global format, consumer vulnerabilities have increased, and therefore new protection policies that allow a more inclusive and equitable reconstruction of global trade are necessary. "Global consumers do not have access to justice. We need improvements and dispute resolutions. Large companies are very concentrated, and these transnational companies need to commit to a global compact", explains the professor.

UN Consumer Global Compact

In her proposal, Cláudia Lima Marques indicated the need to establish a global compact devoted to consumer protection, aiming to compensate for the 'new vulnerabilities' global consumers experience in the digital economy. There are ten principles in three specific areas: Consumer Rights, Data Protection and New Marketing, and Redress and Enforcement Rights [[read the professor's statement](#)]. "We need to establish loyalty from companies in a global agreement with access to alternative means of dispute resolution, especially online", she pointed out.

Other panelists at the same session: former Prime Minister of Peru, Mercedes Aráoz; the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights of the UN (Head of the UN Human Rights Office in New York), Ilze Brands Kehris; Deputy Governor of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation and Chairman of the Committee on the International Protection of Consumers of the ILA-International Law Association (London), Nobumitsu Hayashi; and the Chief of Staff of the African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat, Silver Ojakol.

Read more:

- [UN Trade Forum 2021: Towards a green and inclusive recovery](#)
- [Consumer empowerment needed to fuel sustainability](#)

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Picture: Screenshot

