**Critically discuss and evaluate the impact of international trade policy on food**

**security in developing nations since 2010. (After financial crash WTO decided to tackle food security, affordability changed worldwide, developing countries affected as western economies became protectionist due to the economic hit. Policies brought in aimed to make it fairer for developing countries.**

To what extent has trade policy tried to battle food insecurity

* Food and nutrition security;
* International food systems and comparative advantage;

ESSAY THEMES

* liberalisation of international trade and food policy;



* protectionism and international food security;
* pillars of food security;
* agricultural international trade agreements.

Introduction

* Briefly introduce the topic and explain how it is relevant in today’s economic climate (stats etc.)
* Define key terms: international trade policy, food security, developing nations. (4 pillars, will be referenced throughout the essay)
* Frame the narrative of the essay - While international trade policy can enhance food security, it often increases vulnerabilities in developing nations.
* Also introduce the WTO and bring forward the idea of its lack of power.

1. Theory. Comparative advantage, dependency theory, and food sovereignty. Explain how these theories will guide the analysis.
2. Overview of significant trade policies and agreements since 2010 (e.g., WTO rules, bilateral trade agreements, regional trade deals). Balance with WTO criticism.
3. Economic growth increased agricultural exports, GDP growth, and technology transfer.

Improved access to diverse food products (improved health, life expectancy and quality etc.). Case studies showing successful policy implementations (e.g., trade agreements boosting local agriculture).

1. Dependency on imports leading to vulnerability. Market volatility affecting food prices and stability. Displacement of small-scale farmers and increased rural poverty. Environmental degradation due to intensive farming practices Protectionism discussed here.
2. Comparative analysis of positive and negative impacts. Discuss the role of other factors: climate change, political instability, and global market fluctuations(Examples of Israel inflicting food insecurity on Gaza and Russia invading Ukraine used here?) Evaluate policy design and implementation gaps (Seminar week 5 questions answer important here)
3. Propose strategies for improving food security: balanced trade agreements, support for local agriculture, sustainable practices. Emphasise the importance of inclusive policymaking. Advocate for international cooperation and assistance.

Conclusion

* Summarize key findings and arguments.
* Trade policies have mixed impacts and must be carefully designed to support food security.
* Reflect on future challenges and opportunities.

Week 4 food security lecture questions

Identify both the opportunities and potential losses to local communities when they do not have secure access to food.

Opportunities:

* Economic Growth: Secure food access can boost local economies by increasing productivity and reducing healthcare costs.
* Social Stability: Food security fosters social cohesion and reduces conflict over resources.
* Health Improvements: Access to nutritious food enhances overall health and cognitive development.

Potential Losses:

* Poverty: Lack of food security perpetuates poverty cycles, limiting economic opportunities.
* Health Issues: Malnutrition and related diseases increase, affecting overall community well-being.
* Migration: Food insecurity can lead to forced migration, disrupting social structures

What differences are there in the key issues identified within the short USAID video (2012) and the arguments put forward by Greenpeace in 2002 (paper attached on reference slide)?

USAID (2012):

Focuses on immediate humanitarian aid and long-term development strategies.

Emphasizes technology transfer and market access to improve food security.

Greenpeace (2002):

Highlights the importance of biodiversity and sustainable agricultural practices.

Critiques genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and advocates for natural breeding techniques

What are the opportunities and barriers for international trade organisations and NGOs with regard to food security?

Opportunities:

* Global Partnerships: Collaboration can enhance resource sharing and knowledge transfer.
* Policy Influence: Organizations can advocate for fair trade policies that support food security.

Barriers:

* Political Resistance: Trade policies may face opposition from powerful stakeholders.
* Resource Constraints: Limited funding and logistical challenges can hinder effective implementation.