

# بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم





# شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الالكتروني والميكرو فيلم





# جامعة عين شمس

التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكروفيلم

## قسم

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# بعض الوثائق الأصلية تالفة







بالرسالة صفحات  
لم ترد بالأصل



B127 EA

**The Impact of Trade Agreements on  
Gender Employment  
In Textiles and Clothing in Egypt  
Case Study: The Qualified Industrial Zones  
(QIZs)**

**By: Mona Mourad**

**Ph.D. Dissertation**

**Presented to the Faculty of Economics and Political  
Science  
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**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree  
of  
Doctorate of Philosophy in Economics**

**Supervised by  
Professor Dr. Adla Ragab**

**Professor of Economics, Faculty of Economics and  
Political Science**

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*Adla Ragab*



Name: Mona Salah El Din Mourad

Date & Place of Birth: 15/11/1951

Degree: PH.D in Economics

Specialization: Economics

Supervisor: Professor Dr. Adla Ragab

Title of Thesis: The Impact of Trade Agreements on Gender Employment In Textiles and Clothing in Egypt. Case Study: The Qualified Industrial Zones (QIZs)

**Summary:**

*The 21<sup>st</sup> century represents a new world order, where the global trading nations are heading towards various levels of economic integration, ranging from preferential trade agreements to free trade areas, custom unions to economic unions, and finally economic and political unions. The theory of such integration alludes to the reduction or elimination of trade barriers only among the member nations.*

*Trade expansion has a gendered differential impact, resulting in winners and losers based on gender. Hence, the assessment of trade liberalization, from the perspective of trade agreements, is not a simple matter of pro-trade or anti-trade positioning, but rather it is a more complex situation, that requires an understanding of the consequences of trade expansion, and its impact on gender.*

*The objective will consequently be to formulate appropriate policies and implement active strategies to compensate or counterbalance those who are negatively affected. Until recently very little has been written on the implications of trade agreements from a gender perspective. The gender dimensions of trade have mainly focused on employment and wages.*

*This pioneering study will attempt to highlight the impact of the preferential trade agreement the QIZs; being both a highly exposed area and a show case of a unilateral preferential trade agreement on gender employment and women's status in the textiles and clothing companies in the QIZs .The main controversial issue that the research paper will endeavour to tackle is whether the Egyptian female workers have benefited from the QIZs or were they a form of exploitation?*

*Accordingly, the researcher is conducting two interrelated research methods:*

*First: A survey at the firm level.*

*Second: A survey at the employee level.*

*The main purpose of the research was to survey the QIZs active exporting and non-active exporting companies to assess the impact of the QIZs on gender employment and women's status.*

This study will follow a case method approach to examine the impact of the QIZs on gender employment and women's status in the textiles and clothing industries as specific manufacturing activities in Egypt. The case method approach will allow the researcher to have genuine ex post data to be able to understand the real impact of the QIZs and identify the concerns and prospect for future policy recommendations concerning gender in the era of globalization. It also attempts to test the results of survey on the extent of the overlapping domain between the H/O trade theory, Becker's 1959 theory of discrimination. The trade theory ascertains that trade expansion should lead to the increase in employment .Whereas, the theory of discrimination advocates for the importance of lessening discrimination and investing in human capital consequently affecting women's employment and status.



Gender Equality in the distribution of economic and financial resources has a positive multiplier effect for a range of key development goals mainly poverty reduction and consequently the welfare of the children. The persistence of the gender inequalities in the distribution of economic and financial resources have placed women at a disadvantaged position relative to men in their participating or benefiting from the development process. Despite the considerable progress that has been achieved on many aspects of women's economic empowerment through educational attainment and share of paid work, gender inequality is deeply entrenched as a result of social and cultural discriminatory norms and practices making the pace of change rather slow. The absence of women from key decision making in shaping the allocation of economic and financial resources and opportunities will further perpetuate gender inequality.

**Supervisor's signature**  
**Professor Dr. Adla Ragab**



***Abstract:***

*The 21<sup>st</sup> century represents a new world order, where the global trading nations are heading towards various levels of economic integration, ranging from preferential trade agreements to free trade areas, custom unions to economic unions, and finally economic and political unions. The theory of such integration alludes to the reduction or elimination of trade barriers only among the member nations.*

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*The main purpose of the research was to survey the QIZs active exporting and non-active exporting companies to assess the impact of the QIZs on gender employment and women's status.*

Gender Equality in the distribution of economic and financial resources has a "positive multiplier" effect for a range of key development goals mainly poverty reduction and consequently the welfare of the children. Despite the considerable progress that has been achieved on many aspects of women's economic empowerment through educational attainment and share of paid work, gender inequality is deeply entrenched as a result of social and cultural discriminatory norms and practices making the pace of change rather slow.



***Key words:***

QIZ, Gender Inequality, Textile and Clothing, Preferential Trade Agreement, Egyptian Female Workers, Women Empowerment

**Supervisor's signature**  
**Professor Dr. Adla Ragab**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adla Ragab', is written below the printed name.

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## List of Acronyms

ASEAN	The Association of South East Asia Nations
ATC	Agreement on Textiles and Clothing
BPFA	Beijing Platform for Action
CAPMAS	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics
CEDWA	Convention on the Elimination of Forms Discrimination against Women
CGE	Computable General Equilibrium Model
COMESA	The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Agreement
ERSAP	Economic Reform Structural Adjustment Programme
EU	European Union
FTAs	Free Trade Agreements
GAFTA	The Great Free Arab Trade Area
GSP	Generalized System of Preference
GATT	General Agreement on Tariff and Trade
IDSC	Information and Decision Support Center
ILO	International Labour Organization
GNP	Gross National Product
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MERCOSUR	The Mercado Comun del Sur
NAFTA	North America Free Trade Agreement
QIZs	Qualified Industrial Zones
RTAs	Regional Trade Agreements
SDT	Special and Differential Treatment
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UR	Uruguay Round
USITC	The United States International Trade Commission
WTO	World Trade Organization
WWII	Second World War



### *Dedication*

I dedicate the thesis to my mother Nemat Kamal for loving and supporting me unconditionally throughout my life. She is my inspiration and the main driver behind the Ph.D. thesis.