PATENT CLUB CONVERGENCE AMONG COUNTRIES
By: Daniel Benoliel †

The article uncovers profound empirical and conceptual irregularities concerning the "one-size-fits-all" innovation and intellectual property-related policies used internationally. These policies surely are funneled by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the TRIPS Agreement or the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)'s archetypical Development Agenda. The article offers a novel delineating over these policies between distinct country groups or convergence club. The article's findings should lead to optimizing future WTO member coalitions thereof. In so doing, the article offers a unique statistical model carrying out hierarchal cluster analyses for sixty six innovating countries twice during the 1996-2011 time series. The model detects country groups that are similar in their convergence patterns over patent propensity rates as proxy for their domestic innovation rates. The article finds a more accurate demarcation of two large patent propensity-gaps and convergence patterns therein. The first refers to the stable expanse that separates the middle group of ‘followers’ from the stronger ‘leaders’ in terms of patent propensity capabilities. The second gap similarly refers to the impressive yet steadily closing gap that separates the weaker ‘marginalized’ from the 'followers' clubs.

THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT PROPENSITY DIVIDE
Daniel Benoliel †

This article makes a conceptual and empirical contribution towards an innovation-based growth theory for developing countries. It adheres to the growing importance given by theoreticians and policy makers alike to revisiting the neoclassical economics "one size fits all" innovation policy funneled by current international intellectual property instruments. In so doing, the article offers a unique statistical country panel data model for comparing patent propensity rates as proxy for national innovation over sixteen years between 1996-2011 between two groups of countries adjoining the Developing-Developed countries divide. These are the IMF's labeled Emerging Economies perceived as hotbeds of meaningful innovation within the developing world the Advanced ones, mostly OECDs. It finds a statistical difference (gap) between relatively high propensity to patent in advanced economies, in comparison with the lower one by neighboring emerging economies. It further corroborates earlier related findings whereby countries today are converging to multiple innovation-based growth equilibria rather than to a single 'one size fits all' over their propensity to patent as proxy for domestic innovation. A second finding confirms that Emerging Economies indeed are slowly yet steadily converging towards advanced countries over their propensity to patent.