



SciencesPo

Workshop on Trade and Firm Labor Costs

Wednesday, June 29th 2016

9.20 am - 5.30 pm

While the sensitivity of trade to unit labor costs is relatively well documented at the macro-level, few studies address the issue at the firm-level, discarding the heterogeneous response of trading firms. The relation between labor costs and firm competitiveness is a dual one. If a high wage bill reduces cost competitiveness, it may also signal the high qualification of the labour force. Disentangling these two aspects of labor cost is a major question of empirical identification. Moreover, firms' internal organisation of labor is also a firm-specific determinant of their labor cost. The firms' decisions relative to their labor organisation are then another important aspect of cost competitiveness.

At a time where governments compete with each other to raise their national competitiveness, for instance by lowering taxes on wages, new evidence are needed to guide the design of policies and make competitiveness policies well purposed.

To this end, this workshop intends to gather recent research on firm-level studies on trade and labor costs. In particular, it aims at augmenting the evidence about the relation between firms' wage payroll and trade outcomes by exploiting the information from micro-level panel data.

Location:

SciencesPo CEVIPOF, 98, rue de l'Université - Paris 75007, salle G. Lavau.

Program:

9.20-9.30

Sarah Guillou (OFCE)

Welcome Address

9.30-10.20

Catherine Fuss (National Bank of Belgium)

How do exporters react to changes in cost competitiveness? (with S. Decramer and J. Konings).

10.20-11.10

Tania Treibich (University of Maastricht)

Export Elasticity to labor cost, (with S. Guillou, L. Nesta, and R. Sampognaro).

11.10-11.30 : COFFEE BREAK

11.30-12.20

Thierry Mayer (SciencesPo, Dep. Econ.)

(To be announced)

12.30-14.00 : LUNCH

14.00-15.20

Dalia Marin (University of Munich)

Corporate hierarchies and international trade: Theory and evidence, (with T. Verdier).

15.20-16.10

Juan Carluccio (Banque de France)

Trade, Wages, and Collective Bargaining: Evidence from France, (with D. Fougère and E. Gautier).

16.10-16.30 : TEA BREAK

16.30-17.20

Sarah Guillou (SciencesPo, OFCE)

Firm export diversification and labor organization, (with T. Treibich and M. Bernini).

Local Organizers :

S. Guillou and T. Treibich; assisted by E. Benbassat, C. Houdin and S. Legolvan.

To attend the Workshop: Send an email to laborcosts.workshop@sciencespo.fr before the 25th of June 2016.

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