



I R E S N E W S



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Institute for
Economic
and Social Research

FOCUS

Christmas meeting



The idea of the Christmas Meeting of Belgian Economists is to gather Belgian economists based in Belgium and abroad for a nice and relaxed day, giving them the opportunity to present and discuss their research, without any restrictions in terms of methodology and research fields.

The Christmas Meeting of 2010 was a great success. For its second edition, organized in LLN on December 23, 2011, we have been again able to put together a very interesting program (available at <http://www.uclouvain.be/en-350605.html>), with 10 “regular” presentations (by speakers from NYU, Oxford, Columbia, etc.) and 2 keynote lectures given by Jean-Marie Baland and Jan Eeckhout. Jean-Marie Baland, who is Professor at the University of Namur (Belgium), and is a leading scholar in the field of development economics, presented the output of a broad research project on «Forest degradation in the Himalayas: Determinants and policy options». Jan Eeckhout, a world renowned microeconomist from the University College London, discussed his cutting-edge research on “Matching information”.

ARC mid-term workshop on “Geographical Mobility of Factors”



A mid-term workshop on “Geographical Mobility of Workers and Firms” was organized at IRES on January 17-18, 2012. This workshop is part of the ARC convention 09/14-019, a five year interdisciplinary project analyzing the determinants and consequences of mobility of workers and firms, interdependencies with public policies and economic performances, as well as analysis of mobility at various geographic scales. The workshop included 12 presentations by invited senior economists and junior ARC fellows. Michel Beine (University of Luxembourg) and Pierre Picard (University of Luxembourg) gave presentations on international migration. Annette Schminke (KULeuven, Belgium) and Hillel Rapoport (Bar-Ilan University, Israel) gave presentations on trade and firms’ mobility. Jos van Ommeren (VU Amsterdam) and Bruno Van der Linden (IRES) gave presentations on regional labor mobility and labor market outcomes. Junior presentations were discussed by Tobias Müller (University of Geneva), Henri Sneessens (University of Luxembourg), Florian Mayneris (IRES) and Olivier Pierrard (Bank of Luxembourg).

The keynote address was given by Yves Zenou, Professor of economics at the University of Stockholm. After obtaining his PhD from University Pantheon-Assas (Paris), Yves spent two years at CORE in 1994-96. Since then, he has made outstanding contributions to many fields such as urban economics, public economics, labor economics or international



economics. Yves has published in many top-field and major journals such as *Econometrica*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, etc. He is Editor in Chief of *Regional Science and Urban Economics* and Associate Editor of other important journals. At the ARC workshop, he gave a fascinating presentation on the structure of criminal networks, showing how to identify key players, i.e. criminals who once removed generate the highest possible reduction in crime level. Yves's work on social networks opens new research avenues for our ARC project. Indeed, network theory has been widely used to explain the dynamics of migration or the links between movements of goods, people and firms. And disentangling networks' structure is key to understand interactions between trade, FDI and migration.

PEOPLE

Visitors and new members



IRES hosted **Tobias Müller** between October 1 and 31, 2011. Tobias is an associate Professor of applied economics at the University of Geneva. After completing his PhD at the University of Geneva, he was invited Professor at the University Laval in Québec. He has also served as a consultant for the World Bank and the Swiss federal government.

His research focuses on different aspects of migration (temporary migration, political economy of migration, trade and migration networks) and on the analysis of tax-benefit reforms and their impact on income distribution and the labor market. His past research also includes studies on European integration using computable general equilibrium models. Tobias gave a presentation on «The political economy of naturalization: the Swiss case» at the IRES Research seminar and interacted with our migration team. We started new projects on trade and migration, attitudes towards immigrants, and the effects of informality on development.



Julien Martin joined IRES for a two-year postdoc position in October 2011. Julien earned a Master degree in economics in 2008, and a PhD in 2011 - both from the Paris School of Economics. From 2008 to 2011, he was also a research scholar at CREST-ENSAE (Paris).

Julien conducts research on international trade and international macroeconomics. In his PhD thesis, he has used firm-level data to study questions such as the impact of transport costs on the pricing policy of exporting firms, the impact of the Euro on price dispersion, the consequences of low-wage countries competition on the quality content of developed nations' exports, or the transmission of import prices changes into domestic prices. At IRES, he plans to examine the links between the quality/sophistication of exports and the aggregate volatility of production, and the aggregate consequences of the heterogeneity of price rigidity across firms.

They have defended their PhD and are on the job market:

Hélène Latzer: Hélène defended her PhD "Three essays on growth and development" in 2010. She was supervised by Raouf Boucekkin. Her research interests are macroeconomics, growth, international trade, innovation and market structures. She is currently a FNRS researcher and is working on issues linked to income distribution and innovation and income distribution and trade in quality.
 Webpage: <http://perso.uclouvain.be/helene.latzer/>

Luca Pensieroso: Luca defended his PhD "Real Business Cycle Models of the Great Depression" in 2007. He was supervised by Michel de Vroey. His research interests are mac-

Isabelle Cassiers awarded for « redéfinir la prospérité »



Isabelle Cassiers (Professor of economics and Research Associate F.R.S.-FNRS, UCL) is one of the prize-winner of the 2011

International Wernaers Fund for Research and knowledge spread award. (<http://www1.frs-fnrs.be/fr/financer-les-chercheurs/prix-scientifiques/prix-societe/349-fonds-isdt-wernaers.html>)

Visitors

From Belgium

Gani Aldashev (FUNDP, Namur)

From Europe

- Castia Batista (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland)
- Herbert Brucker (IAB Nuremberg, Germany)
- Italo Colantone (ERASMUS Rotterdam, The Netherlands)
- Ignacio Falgeras Sorauren (University of Malaga, Spain)
- Elise Huillery (Sciences Po Paris, France)
- Tobias Müller (University of Geneva, Switzerland)
- David Opromolla (Bank of Portugal)
- Bard Ter Weel (Central Planning Bureau, The Netherlands)
- Jackie Wahba (University of Southampton, UK)

roeconomics, business cycle and growth theory, economic history, history of economic thought. He is currently a FNRS researcher and is working on several topics: the Great Depression, the Gold Standard, growth and the family structure, illegal immigration.

Webpage: <http://perso.uclouvain.be/luca.pensieroso/Luca/Home.html>

Jean-François Carpentier: Jean-François is expected to defend in April 2011 his PhD "Four empirical essays on commodity prices". He is supervised by Professors Luc Bauwens and Vincent Bodart. His research interests include the natural resource curse, international economics, financial stability and volatility modeling.

Webpage: <http://perso.uclouvain.be/jean-francois.carpantier/>

Visitors

Outside Europe

- Oded Galor (Brown University, US)
- Rodrigo Soares (PUC Rio, Brazil)
- Nico Voigtlaender (UCLA, US)

New members

- Pieterjan Debergh, Doctoral researcher
- Julien Martin, Postdoctoral researcher

IRES IN THE PUBLIC DEBATE

Regards économiques



A new issue of the IRES free on-line review *Regards économiques* has been published in November 2011 by **Raouf Boucekkine** (GREQAM, Université Aix-Marseille & IRES-CORE, UCLouvain; <http://perso.uclouvain.be/raouf.boucekkine/>) and **Rafik Bouklia-Hassane** (University of Oran & CEPN, University of Paris XIII). Their article reflects on the socio-economic determinants and chronology of the Arab Spring, the wave of uprisings which have affected the Arab world since December 2010. It is argued that economic liberalization without political reforms has favored the development of massive rent-seeking in these countries to the benefit of ethnic, economic and religious minorities close to the ruling parties, leading to fragile politico-economic equilibria. Demographic pressure and the rising educational attainments in the majority of Arab countries have definitely undermined these equilibria. Several dramatic institutional and economic issues are however still to be settled for the Arab Spring to have permanent political and economic effects. The article is downloadable in French on <http://sites.uclouvain.be/econ/Regards/Archives/RE092.pdf>.



Forum de politique économique



Ronald Anderson (London School of Economics; <http://personal.lse.ac.uk/ANDERSOR/>), who was President of IRES from 1998 to 2000, has presented on December 9, 2011 a seminar at the IRES *Forum de Politique économique* on "Which lessons to draw from the great financial crisis of our time?". Relying on his expertise and knowledge regarding financial markets and products, R. Anderson draws from this unprecedented financial crisis some useful lessons for implementing reforms in banking management and prudential regulation.

Two other forums have been organized since September 2011:

- October 14th: **Etienne de Callatay** (Bank Degroof, FUNDP & UCLouvain), "La réforme du financement des Régions et Communautés : première analyse".
- October 21th: **Henry Tulkens** (CORE-UCLouvain) and **Vincent van Steenberghe** (Federal Public Service Environment & ICHEC), "Le protocole de Kyoto, les accords de Copenhague, les arrangements de Cancun,... et au-delà : analyse économique et interprétation à la lumière de la théorie des jeux".

Research projects



Three permanent and one associated members of IRES have been awarded two research projects financed by the Belgian Science Policy Office within the programme "Society and Future" and covering the 2012-2015 period:

- **Bart Cockx** (Sherppa, Ghent U & IRES, UCLouvain), **Muriel Dejemeppe** (IRES, UCLouvain) and **Bruno Van der Linden** (IRES, UCLouvain & FNRS): "Age, women and employment: An evaluation";
- François Ryck (ULB), **Vincent Vandenberghe** (IRES, UCLouvain) and Josef Konings (KUL): "Employment, wage discrimination and poverty".

Macroeconomics



Journal articles

Thomas BAUDIN, 2011. "Family Policies: What Does the Standard Endogenous Fertility Model Tell Us?", *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, Association for Public Economic Theory, vol. 13(4), pages 555-593, 08.

IRES Discussion Papers

2011/045 Vincent BODART, Bertrand CANDELON, Jean-François CARPANTIER. «Real Exchange Rates, Commodity Prices and Structural Factors in Developing Countries». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6162>)

2011/039 Raouf BOUCEKKINE, B. MARTINEZ, J. R. RUIZ-TAMARIT. «Growth vs. level effect of population change on economic development: An inspection into human-capital-related mechanisms». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6155>)

2011/035 Olivier STERCK. «Geoengineering as an alternative to mitigation: specification and dynamic implications». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6149>)

Interdisciplinary topics



IRES Discussion Papers

2011/038 Frédéric DOCQUIER, Chrysovalantis VASILAKIS, D. TAMFUTU MUNSI. «International Migration and the Propagation of HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6154>)

International Economics



Journal articles

Stefano GAGLIARDUCCI, Tommaso NANNICINI, Paolo NATICCHIONI, 2011. «Electoral Rules and Politicians' Behavior: A Micro Test», *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, American Economic Association, vol. 3(3), pages 144-74, August.

Mark VANCAUTEREN, Daniel WEISERBS, 2011. "Intra-European Trade of Manufacturing Goods: An Extension of the Gravity Model", *Articles of International Econometric Review* (IER), Econometric Research Association, vol. 3(1), pages 1-24, April.

IRES Discussion Papers

2011/046 Francesco DI COMITE, Jacques-François THISSE, Hylke VANDENBUSSCHE. «Vertical Differentiation in Monopolistic Competition». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6163>)

2011/044 Florian MAYNERIS. «A new perspective on the firm size-growth relationship: Shape of profits, investment and heterogeneous credit constraints». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6161>)

2011/043 Florian MAYNERIS, Sandra PONCET. «French firms at the conquest of Asian markets: The role of export spillovers». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6159>)

2011/041 Florian MAYNERIS, Sandra PONCET. «Entry on difficult export markets by Chinese domestic firms: the role of foreign export spillovers». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6157>)

2011/040 Luca MARCHIORI, Olivier PIERRARD, Henri R. SNEESSENS. "Demography, capital flows and unemployment". (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6156>)

2011/034 Luca MARCHIORI, Jean-François MAYSTADT, Ingmar SCHUMACHER. «The Impact of Weather Anomalies on Migration in sub-Saharan Africa». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&recid=6148>)

2011/033 Aysegul KAYA OGLU, Ayhan KAYA. «Is National Citizenship Withering Away?: So-

cial Affiliations and Labor Market Integration of Turkish Origin Immigrants in Germany and France». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&-recid=6147>)

Labor economics, social policies and policy evaluations



Journal articles

Bruno VAN DER LINDEN, 2011. «Principes généraux d'évaluation des effets d'un dispositif», *Reflets et perspectives de la vie économique*, De Boeck Université, vol. 0(1), pages 13-22.

Matteo PICCHIO, Chiara MUSSIDA, 2011. «Gender wage gap: A semi-parametric approach with sample selection correction», *Labour Economics*, Elsevier, vol. 18(5), pages 564-578, October.

Matteo PICCHIO, Jan C. VAN OURS, 2011. "Market imperfections and firm-sponsored training," *Labour Economics*, Elsevier, vol. 18(5), pages 712-722, October.

Ludovic JULIEN, 2011. "A note on Stackelberg competition", *Journal of Economics*, Springer, vol. 103(2), pages 171-187, June.

Ludovic JULIEN., 2011. "Unemployment equilibrium and economic policy in mixed markets", *Economic Modelling*, Elsevier, vol. 28(4), pages 1931-1940, July.

Ludovic JULIEN, Olivier MUSY, 2011. "A Generalized Oligopoly Model With Conjectural Variations", *Metroeconomica*, Wiley Blackwell, vol. 62(3), pages 411-433, 07.

IRES Discussion Papers

2011/042 Bart COCKX, Muriel DEJEMEPPE, Andrey LAUNOV, Bruno VAN DER LINDEN, «Monitoring, Sanctions and Front-Loading of Job Search in a Non-Stationary Model». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&-recid=6158>)

2011/037 Matteo PICCHIO. «Lagged Duration Dependence in Mixed Proportional Hazard Models». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&-recid=6151>)

2011/036 Marco PECORARO. «Estimating the returns to educational mismatch with panel data: the role of unobserved heterogeneity». (<http://fmserver6.sipr.ucl.ac.be/volpf/ires/DPs/browserecord.php?action=browse&-recid=6150>)

PAST SEMINARS

IRES Research Seminar (2011)

- October 6th: Tobias Mueller (University of Geneva): "Individual attitudes towards migration: a reexamination of the evidence".
- October 13th: Elise Huillery (Sciences Po Paris): "Understanding Community Participation to Make Services Wo".
- October 20th: Jackie Wahba (University of Southampton): "Welfare Magnet Hypothesis, Fiscal Burden and Immigration Skill Selectivity".
- October 27th: Gani Aldashev (FUNDP, Namur): "Deadly Anchor: Gender Bias under Russian Colonization of Kazakhstan, 1898-1908".
- November 3th: Herbert Brucker (IAB-Nuremberg): "Migration and Imperfect Labor Markets: Theory and Comparative Evidence from Denmark, Germany and the UK".
- November 10th: Italo Colantone (ERASMUS, Rotterdam): "New Imported Inputs, New Domestic Products".
- November 17th: Nico Voiglaender (UCLA): "How the West Invented Fertility Restriction".



PAST SEMINARS

- November 24th: Rodrigo Soares (PUC Rio): "Health and Educational Impacts of Early Life Water Scarcity: The Case of the Brazilian Semi-arid".
- December 1st: Bard Ter Weel (CPB Netherlands): "The Legacy of the Brethren of the Common Life".
- December 8th: Catia Batista (Trinity College Dublin): "Migrant Remittances and Information Flows: Evidence from a Field Experiment".
- December 15th: David Opromolla (Bank of Portugal): "The Tip of Iceberg : a Quantitative Framework for Estimating Trade Costs".

Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar (2011)

- September 21th: Olivier Sterk (IRES): "Sustainability of the peace process in Burundi: who benefits from the demobilization program?".
- October 11th: Paolo Melindi Ghidi (IRES): "Income Inequality, School Choice and the Endogenous Gentrification of U.S. Cities".
- October 25th: Julio Davila (CORE): "Implementing the first-best steady state TFP".
- November 8th: Fabio Mariani (IRES): "From Polygamy to Serial Monogamy: a Unified Theory of Marriage Institutions".
- November 22th: Julien Martin (IRES): "Low-Wage Countries' Competition, Reallocation Across Firms and the Quality Content of Exports".
- December 6th: Andrea Ariu (IRES): Brain Deficit: How Corruption Keeps High-Skilled Away".
- December 13th: Amadine Aubry (IRES): "The effect of product diversity on the pattern of consumption".



DON'T MISS

- May 21th -22th, 2012: Workshop on sustainability and population change

IRES - Université catholique de Louvain

Collège L.H. Dupriez,
3 Place Montesquieu, Box L2.06.01
B-1348 Louvain-La-Neuve / Belgique
Tél. +32(0)10474143
Fax. +32(0)10473945
claudine.stage@uclouvain.be

Responsable editor

muriel.dejemeppe@uclouvain.be

Assistant editors

Anne Davister
Claudine Stage

Graphic designer: Dominos

Editorial committee

Vincent Bodart
Muriel Dejemeppe
Séverine Dinjar
Frédéric Docquier
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Institut de Recherches
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