

Innovation, firm size, productivity and imbalances in the age of de-globalization

CompNet Annual Conference, 29-30 June 2017

European Commission, Bruxelles

As the criticism to globalization mounts, so do the challenges to solid tenets of economic theory and practice connecting trade and productivity. How can we reconcile the decline in productivity in the last decade with still unabated barriers to globalization? To what extent are increasing cross-border activities related to higher productivity? How would society's welfare be affected in case barriers to trade were imposed by nations in some form or another? How would a lower freedom to cross border activities affect the spread of innovation globally and across firms? How will this affect Small and Medium Enterprises? Would such a "less globalised world" lead to smaller imbalances, across economies and in terms of income inequality?

These are the leading questions overarching the 13th **Competitiveness Research Network conference**, jointly organized with the **European Commission** – DG ECFIN and GROW. We are calling for papers tackling one or more of these themes. More specifically, we seek original academic work with strong policy relevance on the following topics:

- Productivity measurement and its determinants
- Spreading innovation across firms and globalisation
- External imbalances, adjustment to shocks and globalisation
- Productivity, income inequality and trade
- Firm growth and internationalization
- Trade and resource reallocation
- Linkages across firms, sectors and countries

Professor **Marc Melitz** (Harvard University), Professor **Chad Syverson** (Chicago Booth School of Business) and Professor **Ufuk Akcigit** (University of Chicago) have already confirmed their participation as keynote speakers.

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Submission of papers

Complete manuscripts (preferred) or extended abstracts should be submitted electronically in PDF format to secretariat@comp-net.org by **31 March 2017**. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by **30 April 2017**.

Selection Committee

Prof. **E. Bartelsman** (VU Amsterdam), Prof. **C. Altomonte** (Bocconi University), Prof. **G. Ottaviano** (London School of Economics), **S. Müller** (IWH), **R. De Haas** (EBRD), **G. D'Adamo** (EU Commission), **F. di Mauro** (CompNet)

Expenses

Travel expenses of presenting authors from academic institutions will be reimbursed. Participants from central banks and other official institutions are expected to cover their own expenses.

Sponsors and organisers

The Conference is sponsored by the European Commission (EC), the European Central Bank (ECB), the Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Tinbergen Institute and the Competitiveness Research Network (CompNet).

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