International Labour Review

Contents

The economic significance of laws relating to employment protection and different forms of employment: Analysis of a panel of 117 countries, 1990–2013

Zoe ADAMS, Louise BISHOP, Simon DEAKIN, Colin FENWICK, Sara MARTINSSON GARZELLI and Giudy RUSCONI

The authors use time series econometric analysis applying non-stationary panel data methods to estimate the relationships between employment protection legislation and legal protection of different forms of employment (part-time, fixed-term and agency work), and economic outcomes, with a data set based on the Centre for Business Research Labour Regulation Index (CBR–LRI), covering 117 countries from 1970 to 2013. Findings suggest that these laws have become significantly more protective over time and that strengthening worker protection is associated with an increase in labour's share of national income, rising labour force participation, rising employment, and falling unemployment, although the observed magnitudes are small when set against wider economic trends.

KEYWORDS: EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, LEGAL ASPECT, PART TIME EMPLOYMENT, FIXED TERM LABOUR CONTRACT, EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, ECONOMETRICS, STATISTICAL METHOD, TREND.

Innovative approaches to regulating decent work for domestic workers in Côte d'Ivoire: Labour administration and the judiciary under a general labour code Adelle BLACKETT and Assata KONÉ-SILUÉ

The authors offer a contextualized analysis of judicial decisions rendered during 1971–2013 in Côte d'Ivoire, where domestic work is regulated by a general labour code. Assessments of those decisions, alongside qualitative interviews of institutional

actors, elucidate how innovative practices were mainly derived from the code by attentive inspectors and by jurisprudence evolving to treat domestic work like any other. Yet limitations emanating from the inability to grapple with the specificity of domestic work are also identified. Reaffirming that the regulation of domestic work must embrace its duality (work like any other and work like no other), the authors conclude with a call for an international community of learning on decent work for domestic workers.

Keywords: domestic work, regulation, judicial decision, decent work, labour administration, trend, Côte d'Ivoire.

63 Economics for the right to work

Manuel C. BRANCO

This article argues that mainstream economic theory is one of the main reasons why the human right to work, which was recognized by the international community in 1966, appears not to have been taken seriously. In the mainstream discourse, labour is a cost, employment is a second-tier objective, individuals are resources with production specifications, and rights are rigidities. Economics based on human rights and seeking to promote the right to work must construe that right as more than just fighting unemployment, regard full employment as an end in itself and place the individual at the heart of its raison d'être.

KEYWORDS: RIGHT TO WORK, ECONOMIC THEORY, ECONOMIC ROLE, PROMOTION OF EMPLOYMENT, INCOME DISTRIBUTION.

83 Youth earnings and labour market volatility in Europe

Sara AYLLÓN and Xavier RAMOS

The authors provide new evidence on youth earnings and labour market volatility, including flows into and out of employment, across Europe during the Great Recession. EU-SILC data for the period 2004–2013 reveal large disparities in volatility levels and trends across European countries. As expected, the Great Recession increased youth labour market volatility, offsetting the trends observed over previous years of economic prosperity. A variance decomposition exercise points to greater exposure to worker turnover in southern Europe. Fixed effects regression on labour market institutions relates higher unemployment benefits and more stringent employment protection legislation to lower earnings and labour market volatility.

KEYWORDS: YOUTH EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, ECONOMIC RECESSION, LABOUR MARKET, TREND, EUROPE.

SPECIAL FEATURE: TRADE IN SERVICES

115 Trade and jobs in Europe: The role of mode 5 service exports José M. RUEDA-CANTUCHE, Lucian CERNAT and Nuno SOUSA

Over the past two decades, EU employment supported by extra-EU exports of goods and services has increased markedly, with a shift towards jobs supported by services exported as part of manufactured goods. The authors seek further insight into this trend through the full decomposition of trade flows using a multi-regional input—output model and the World Input—Output Database for 40 countries and 35 industries over the period 1995–2011. Their findings call for reflection by policy-makers regarding the four traditional modes of service supply under the General Agreement on Trade in Services with a view to adequately capturing this new reality in global trade.

Keywords: trade structure, service sector, export volume, employment, input output analysis, Europe.

137 Foreign trade barriers and jobs in global supply chains

Stefan KÜHN and Christian VIEGELAHN

This article uses ILO global supply chain job estimates to study the impact on domestic jobs of foreign barriers to trade in goods and services. Empirical analysis largely confirms the predictions derived from a theoretical model calibrated to WIOD data for 2000 and 2011. Barriers to trade in manufacturing and services are both found to have a cross-border impact on jobs in their own sector and spill-over effects in other sectors, the latter becoming stronger over time. This article shows

the labour market consequences of the increased interconnectedness of countries and sectors through global supply chains, which suggests that trade policy can have significant external effects on foreign labour markets.

KEYWORDS: EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, TRADE BARRIER, VALUE CHAINS, LABOUR MARKET, TRADE POLICY, TREND.

169 Measuring and understanding trade in service tasks

Daniel CHIQUIAR, Martín TOBAL and Renato YSLAS

The revolution in information and communications technologies has put service tasks with strong tradability characteristics at high risk of being offshored. This article reviews studies proposing indicators of service tradability, exploring the labour market implications of service offshoring and developing theories to rationalize the facts. It suggests that both skill intensity and tradability are determinants of wage and employment effects. Nonetheless, the lack of widely accepted definitions of tradability, the absence of high-quality data on service trade flows and the difficulty of measuring import competition at higher disaggregation levels pose difficulties in achieving further progress, pointing to areas for future research.

Keywords: trade structure, service sector, information technology, international relocation of industry, measurement system.

191 The labour market effects of applied service regimes and service sector reforms Anirudh SHINGAL and Pierre SAUVÉ

This article offers novel insights into the modal and sectoral characteristics of trade in services that may exert an influence on the redistributive properties of liberalization in service trade and investment. It uses descriptive statistics and econometric analysis to examine the labour market effects of unilateral service regimes, drawing on data from the OECD's Services Trade Restrictiveness Index for a sample of 44 OECD and non-OECD countries and 22 sectors over the period 2014–16. Whereas the findings suggest that the unilateral liberalization of services is not associated with net labour displacement effects, the authors call for empirical evidence, based on improved data sources, for a fuller understanding of this issue.

KEYWORDS: SERVICE SECTOR, TRADE STRUCTURE, LABOUR MARKET ANALYSIS, STATISTICAL METHOD, OECD, TREND.