



The 5th Open Virtual Expert Café

November 15th, 2022, 2 pm CET

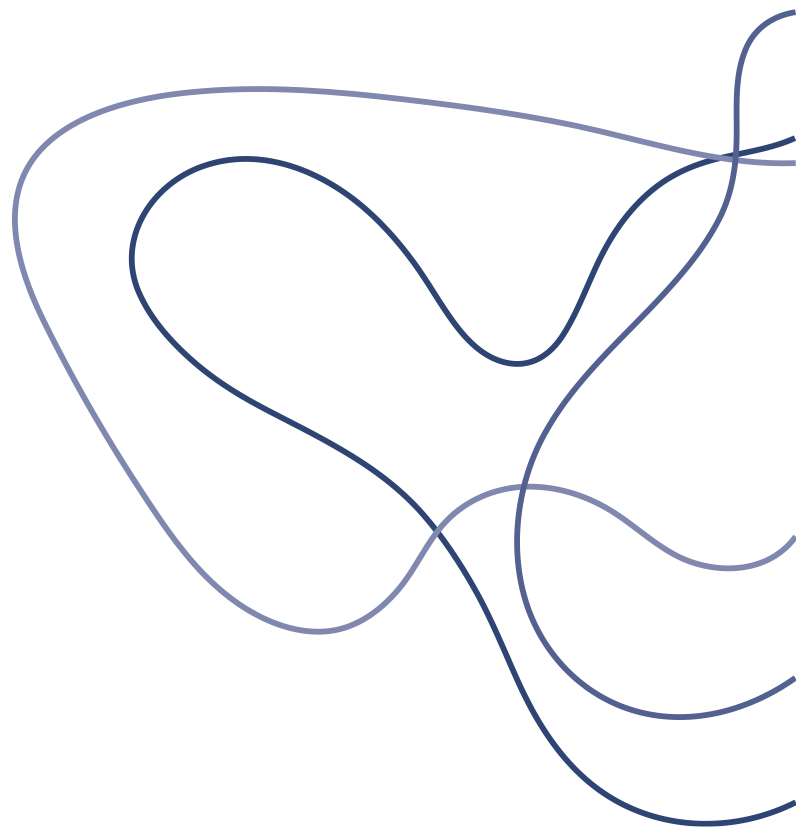
Ursula Holtgrewe, Martina Lindorfer, Nela Šalamon



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101004776

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Rules of the game

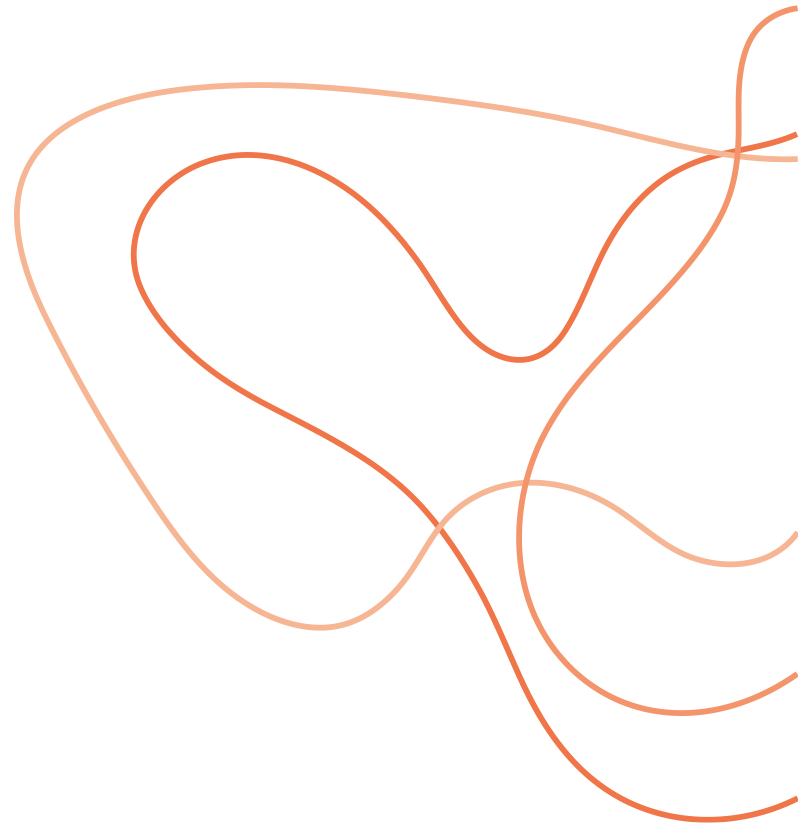


The format

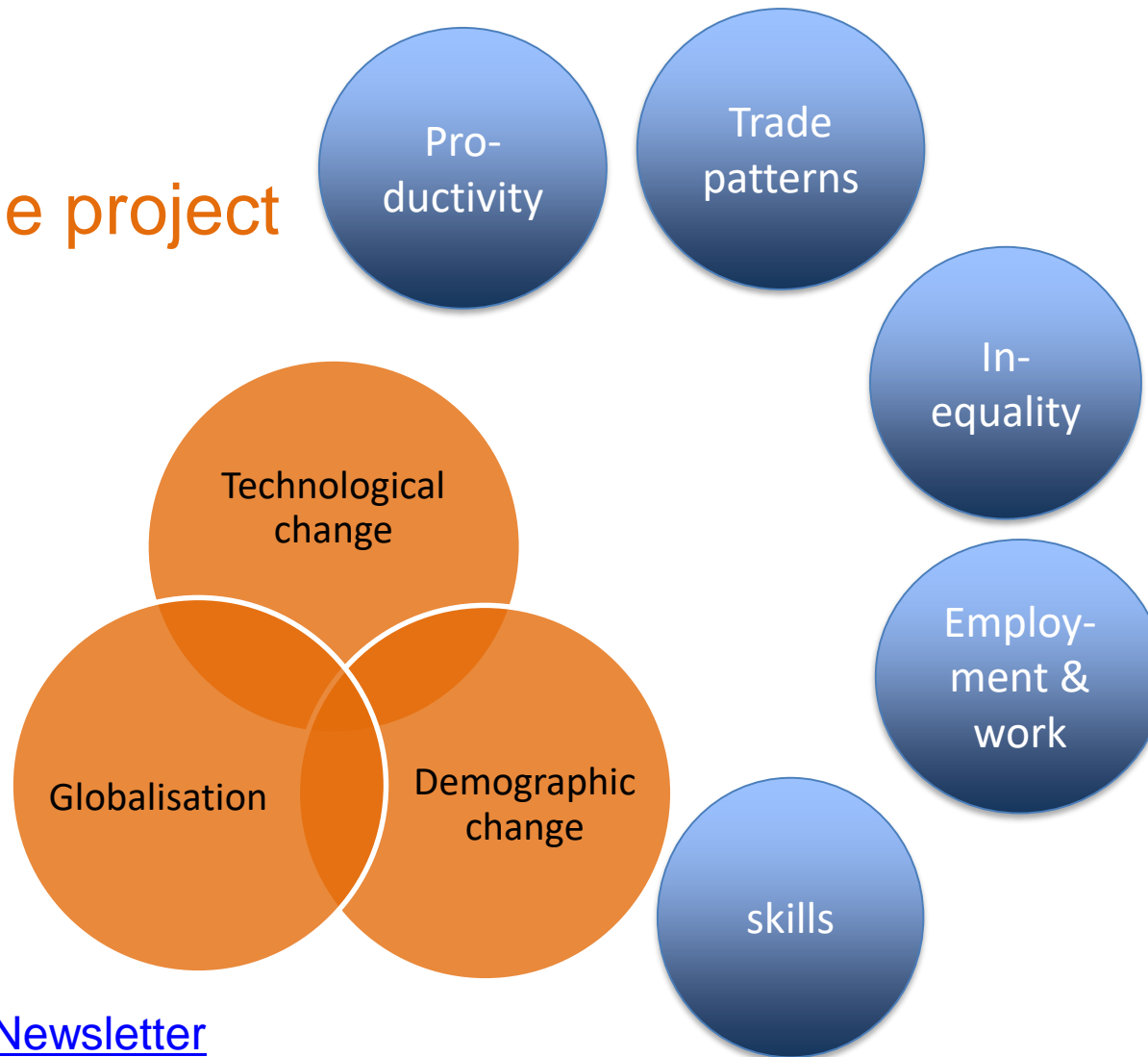
- A low-threshold virtual forum for exchange on globalization, digitization, demographic change, work and employment
- news, ideas, results, collaborations
- Everybody's welcome to contribute or listen and comment!
- Contributors have a 5 minute time slot (may be 3 minutes) and 1 ppt slide (headline, keywords, links, contact data!) to present projects, ideas, results, partner searches ...
- A quarterly 90-minute virtual meeting
- Next Session (save the date!): **14 February 2023, 14h CET (tbc)**
- Register online: <https://survey3.zsi.at/index.php/566899?lang=en>
- Contact: untangled@zsi.at
(the team: Ursula Holtgrewe, Martina Lindorfer, Nela Šalamon)

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Your hosts: the
UNTANGLED
project



The project



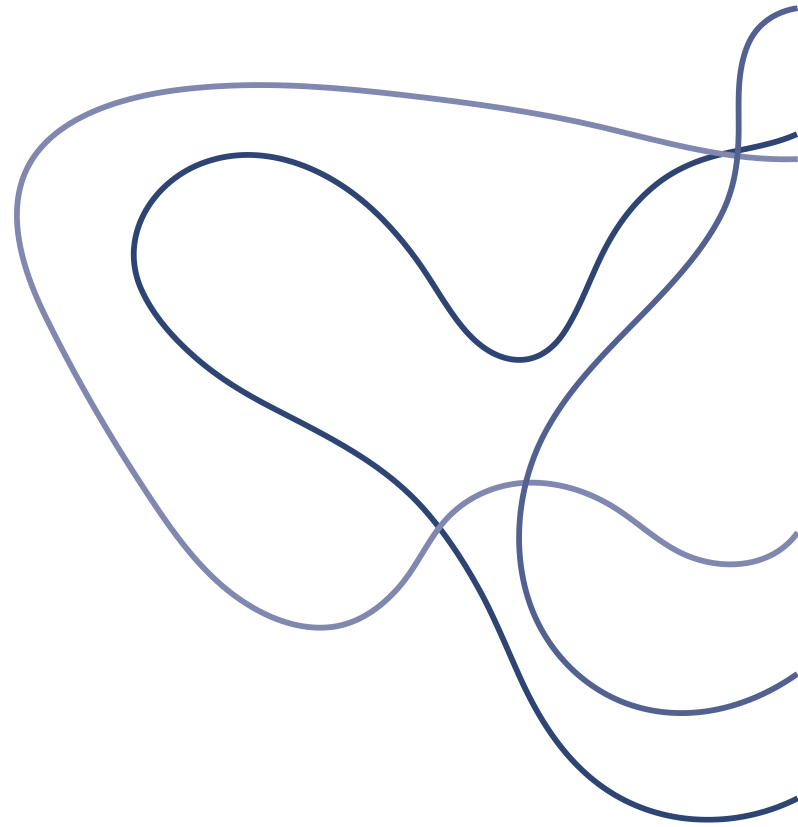
Horizon Europe, Call
TRANSFORMATIONS-
18-2020
2/2021 – 1/2024

- Economic and social science approaches
- Scenarios
- Policy briefs
- Ongoing stakeholder engagement
- More to come!

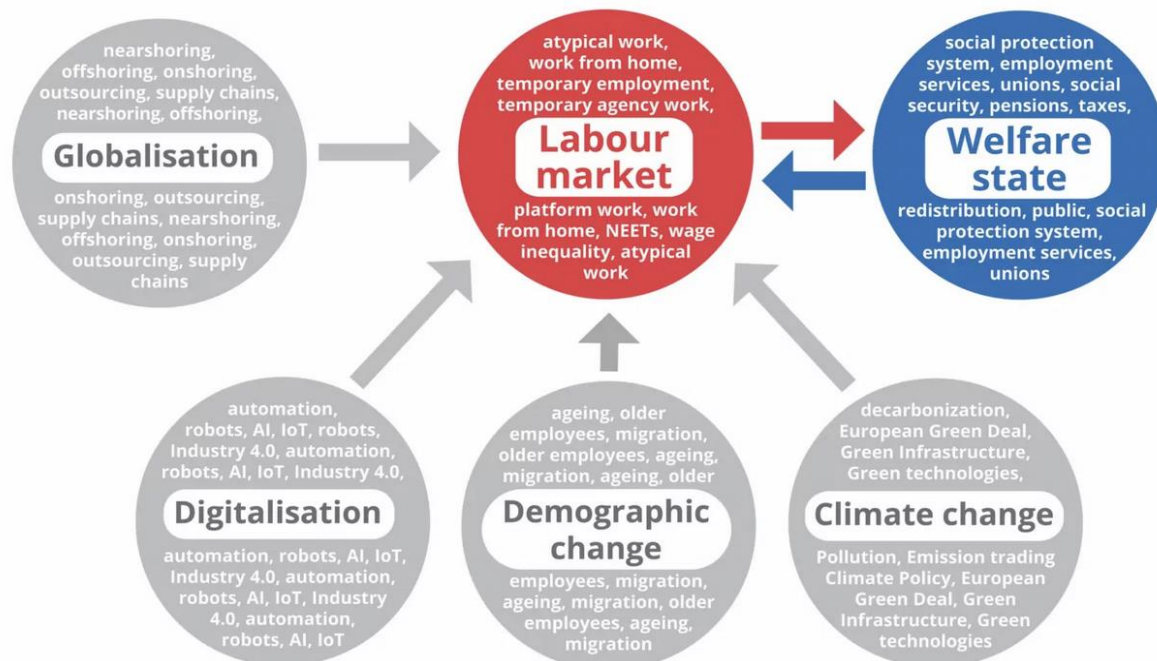
- [Newsletter](#)
- To get more targeted information: Register for the [stakeholder community](#)

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Contributions



Welfare systems and labour market policies for economic and social resilience in Europe

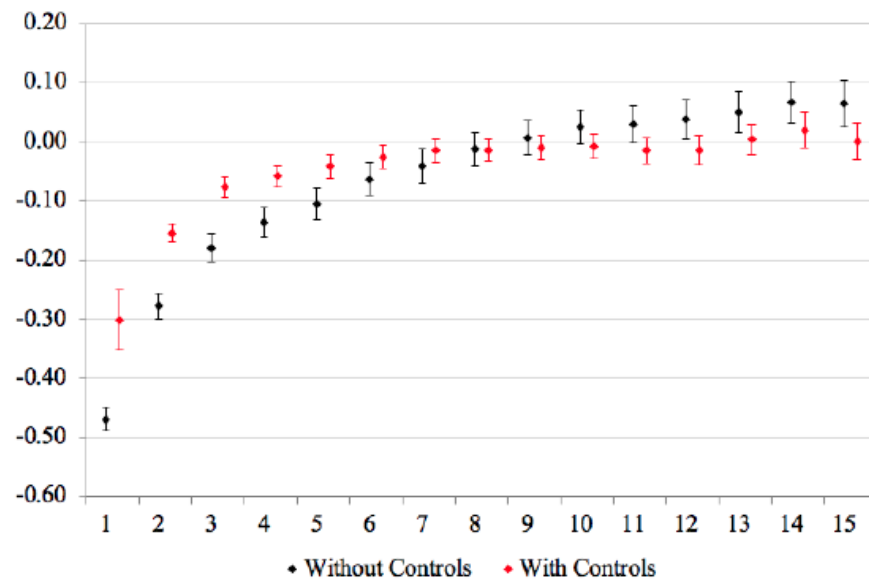


- New HE Project, Sep 22 – August 2025
- Coordination Karo Lenaerts & Mikkel Barslund of HIVA
- Intro webinar February 2023
- Series of events from October 2023
- Website coming soon, social media worth watching

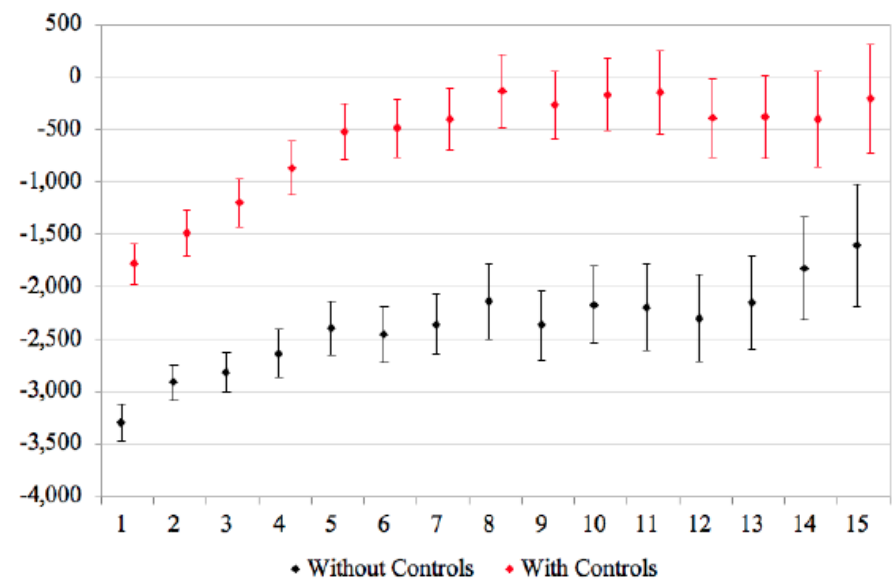
Results: EU-Mobility, Public Transfers and Assimilation

Figure 1 Results - Total Transfers by Years Since Arrival

(a) Receipt



(b) Amount



The horizontal axis provides the year since arrival in NL by EU mobile citizens, while the vertical axis provides the estimates of the difference in public transfer receipt with respect to Dutch Citizens for each year since arrival. Point estimates are surrounded by the 95% confidence intervals.

Structural change and polarisation in the rural-urban divide

Roman Römisch, wiiw (roemisch@wiiw.ac.at)

November 2022

Main points of the study

- Research question: “Does globalisation related structural change increase the economic polarisation between urban and rural NUTS-3 regions in the EU?”
- Main method: Hierarchical spatial econometrics model
- Answer to the question: “No it does not.”
- Main results
 - **Core-periphery pattern** in the EU (GDP p.c. levels 30% higher in urban regions than in rural regions) – e.g. because of agglomeration externalities
 - Between 2000-2019 GDP **differences became smaller**. This process slowed down after the crisis in 2009 and showed strong trends of group convergence
 - **Globalisation** may have contributed to a **decrease** of disparities
 - **Growth benefits** from globalisation are visible in **all regions** (i.e. urban and rural) if they had structural change
- Policy conclusions
 - Support of **tradeable sector** development
 - **EU Cohesion policy** issues: a) go against agglomeration forces, b) establish new sectors, c) conflicts with other EU policies (e.g. competition, macro-financial etc., trade)
 - **National policies**: Location policy, industrial policy, non-expenditure based policies (regulatory)
 - **Local policies**: Capacity for place based approaches
 - **Coordinate**, coordinate, coordinate...

**Technological Change and Workplace Innovation
in the Insurance Sector in South Africa:
Disruption with the Potential for Social Good in a Developing
Country Context?**

Zaakhir Asmal, Haroon Bhorat, Lisa Martin & Christopher Rooney
DPRU, School of Economics, University of Cape Town

15 November 2022

Expert Café Presentation

WI in South Africa's Insurance Sector:

Globalisation	Technology Use	Demographic Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global innovations in the insurance sector filter through to the country: South African firms learn from other countries and adapt; in some ways SA influences other countries as well due to the unique circumstances and solutions required for the SA market • Global labour markets also impact available skills via migration into and out of South Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 has acted as a catalyst to force firms to update their work organisation and product offerings • Small steps have started towards big data and AI • Cyber security is a major concern • A continuous learning mindset is needed for employees to efficiently adopt new tech innovations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sector has a higher proportion of women than men, which is higher than the economy average • In terms of race, the sector has a higher proportion of white and Indian and a lower proportion of African employees compared to the country's race distribution • The workforce is relatively well-educated, but the sector still suffers skills gaps

**TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE & WORKPLACE
INNOVATION IN THE INSURANCE SECTOR IN
SOUTH AFRICA**

Skills	Employment	Job Quality	Inequality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Skills gaps in the industry: 1) Insurance experience and knowledge, 2) Lack of tech skills • Leaders agree that upskilling and reskilling of staff is important • A number of courses are being offered to employees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A proportion of job losses as a result of technological changes is inevitable in the future • However, there will always be a need for face-to-face contact / human interaction from certain clients • Job losses will depend on skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tech changes have had impacts on WI and employees' job quality • Flexible work hours, work-from-home or hybrid work systems, improved office work environments • Both positive and negative • The hybrid system is being established as a new normal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive impacts are increased coverage and penetration of the customer base, lower costs and affordable rates, meaning greater accessibility and financial inclusion for the poor • Potential negative impacts on employees through skills gaps and barriers to employment



Partners



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