

Du Caju, Philip; Kátay, Gábor; Lamo, Ana; Nicolitsas, Daphne; Poelhekke, Steven

**Working Paper**

## Inter-industry wage differentials in EU countries: What do cross-country time-varying data add to the picture?

NBB Working Paper, No. 189

**Provided in Cooperation with:**

National Bank of Belgium, Brussels

*Suggested Citation:* Du Caju, Philip; Kátay, Gábor; Lamo, Ana; Nicolitsas, Daphne; Poelhekke, Steven (2010) : Inter-industry wage differentials in EU countries: What do cross-country time-varying data add to the picture?, NBB Working Paper, No. 189, National Bank of Belgium, Brussels

This Version is available at:

<https://hdl.handle.net/10419/144401>

**Standard-Nutzungsbedingungen:**

Die Dokumente auf EconStor dürfen zu eigenen wissenschaftlichen Zwecken und zum Privatgebrauch gespeichert und kopiert werden.

Sie dürfen die Dokumente nicht für öffentliche oder kommerzielle Zwecke vervielfältigen, öffentlich ausstellen, öffentlich zugänglich machen, vertreiben oder anderweitig nutzen.

Sofern die Verfasser die Dokumente unter Open-Content-Lizenzen (insbesondere CC-Lizenzen) zur Verfügung gestellt haben sollten, gelten abweichend von diesen Nutzungsbedingungen die in der dort genannten Lizenz gewährten Nutzungsrechte.

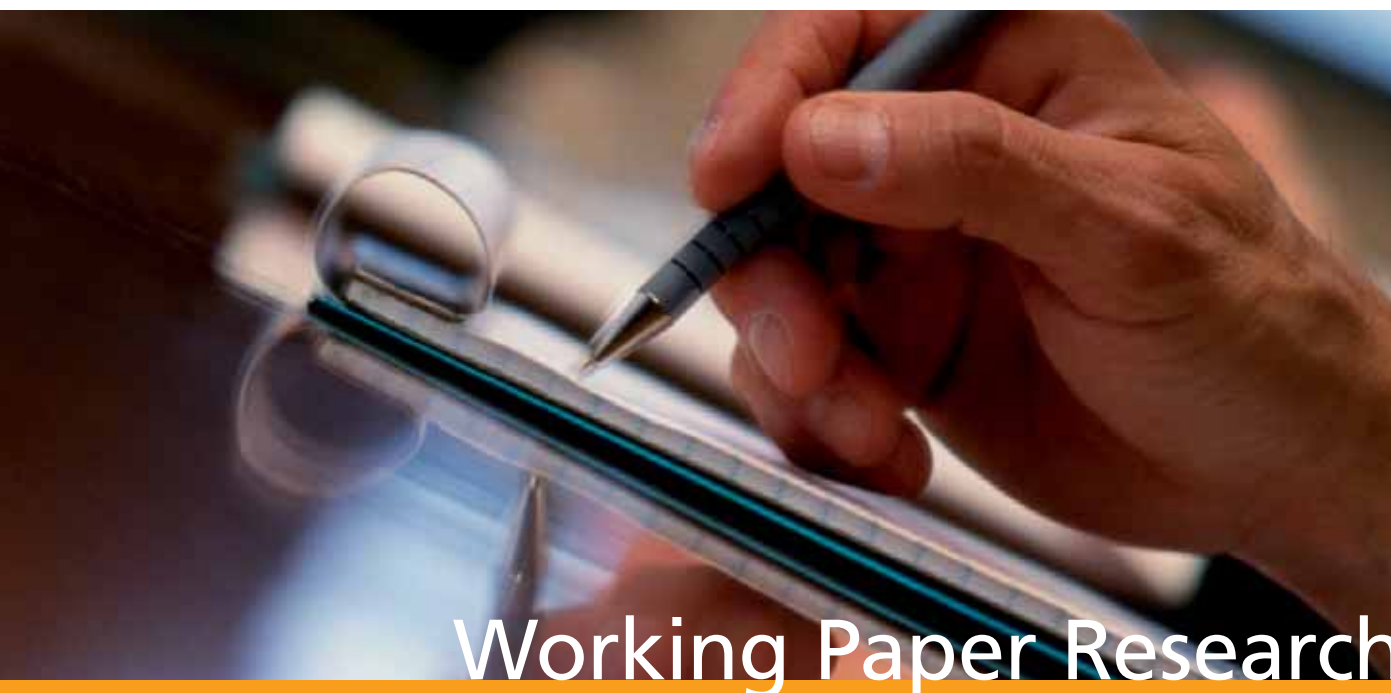
**Terms of use:**

*Documents in EconStor may be saved and copied for your personal and scholarly purposes.*

*You are not to copy documents for public or commercial purposes, to exhibit the documents publicly, to make them publicly available on the internet, or to distribute or otherwise use the documents in public.*

*If the documents have been made available under an Open Content Licence (especially Creative Commons Licences), you may exercise further usage rights as specified in the indicated licence.*

Inter-industry wage differentials  
in EU countries : What do cross-country  
time-varying data add to the picture ?



## Working Paper Research

by Philip Du Caju, Gábor Kátay, Ana Lamo,  
Daphne Nicolitsas and Steven Poelhekke

April 2010    **No 189**

---

**Editorial Director**

Jan Smets, Member of the Board of Directors of the National Bank of Belgium

**Statement of purpose:**

The purpose of these working papers is to promote the circulation of research results (Research Series) and analytical studies (Documents Series) made within the National Bank of Belgium or presented by external economists in seminars, conferences and conventions organised by the Bank. The aim is therefore to provide a platform for discussion. The opinions expressed are strictly those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Bank of Belgium.

**Orders**

For orders and information on subscriptions and reductions: National Bank of Belgium,  
Documentation - Publications service, boulevard de Berlaimont 14, 1000 Brussels.

Tel +32 2 221 20 33 - Fax +32 2 21 30 42

The Working Papers are available on the website of the Bank: <http://www.nbb.be>.

© National Bank of Belgium, Brussels

All rights reserved.

Reproduction for educational and non-commercial purposes is permitted provided that the source is acknowledged.

ISSN: 1375-680X (print)

ISSN: 1784-2476 (online)

## Abstract

This paper documents the existence of inter-industry wage differentials across a large number of industries for eight EU countries (Belgium, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain) at two different points in time (in general, 1995 and 2002). It then looks into possible explanations for the main patterns observed. The analysis uses the European Structure of Earnings Survey (SES), an internationally-harmonised matched employer-employee dataset, to estimate inter-industry wage differentials conditional on a rich set of employee, employer and job characteristics. After investigating the possibility that unobservable employee characteristics lie behind the conditional wage differentials, a hypothesis which cannot be accepted, the paper considers the role of institutional features, as well as industry structure and performance in explaining inter-industry wage differentials. The results suggest that inter-industry wage differentials are consistent with rent-sharing mechanisms and that rent-sharing is more likely in industries with firm-level collective agreements and with higher collective agreement coverage.

Key Words: inter-industry wage differentials, rent sharing, unobserved ability

JEL Classification: J31, J41, J51

### **Corresponding author:**

Philip Du Caju, National Bank of Belgium, Research Department, [philip.ducaju@nbb.be](mailto:philip.ducaju@nbb.be).

Gábor Kátay, Magyar Nemzeti Bank, [katayg@mnbb.hu](mailto:katayg@mnbb.hu).

Ana Lamo, European Central Bank, [Ana.Lamo@ecb.int](mailto:Ana.Lamo@ecb.int).

Daphne Nicolitsas, Bank of Greece, [DNIKOLITSA@bankofgreece.gr](mailto:DNIKOLITSA@bankofgreece.gr).

Steven Poelhekke, De Nederlandsche Bank, [S.Poelhekke@dnb.nl](mailto:S.Poelhekke@dnb.nl).

This paper is part of the research programme conducted in the context of the Wage Dynamics Network (WDN).

We are grateful to our WDN colleagues for their comments and support and to participants at the WDN Conference in June 2008 for constructive suggestions. The support of Frank Smets and our ECB colleagues in DG-Statistics were essential in gaining access to five of the SES datasets used in the paper. We are also grateful to Rebekka Christopoulou, for excellent research assistance, and to Andrew McCallum and Ladislav Wintr for help with the data in the initial stages of this project. We would also like to thank Eurostat and the National Statistical Institutes of each of the countries studied in this paper for granting access to the SES data and assisting with clarifications. Poelhekke is member of OxCarre and CESifo. Opinions expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of the central banks the authors are affiliated with. Responsibility for errors and omissions remains with the authors.

The views expressed in this paper are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Bank of Belgium or any other institution to which the author is affiliated.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Introduction.....   | 1  |
| 2. Literature review.....  | 2  |
| 3. Data .....  | 6  |
| 4. Observed inter-industry differentials .....   | 8  |
| 5. What role for observable workforce and job characteristics?.....                    | 10 |
| 6. What role for unobservable employee characteristics? .....                          | 15 |
| 7. What role for industry structure, performance and labour market institutions? ..... | 16 |
| 8. Conclusions .....   | 19 |
| References .....   | 20 |
| Appendix, tables .....   | 22 |
| National Bank of Belgium - Working papers series .....                                 | 31 |

## 1. Introduction

The discussion on the causes behind inter-industry wage differentials is still unresolved in the literature. One strand of the literature argues that such differentials are sizeable and only compatible with non-competitive theories of wage determination such as efficiency wage and rent sharing theories (see, for example, Krueger and Summers, 1987; Dickens and Katz, 1987). Another strand argues that inter-industry wage differentials are poorly measured and would significantly decrease in size if unobserved employer and employee effects were taken into account (see, for example, Murphy and Topel, 1987; Abowd, *et al.*, 1999; Carruth and Dickerson, 2004).

This paper provides additional evidence by exploiting cross-country, time varying information from eight European Union (EU) countries. The paper summarises work on this topic undertaken in the context of the Wage Dynamics Network (WDN).<sup>1</sup> More specifically, the paper starts by summarising the WDN evidence documenting the existence and persistence of inter-industry wage differentials for similar workers in comparable jobs in a large number of industries at two points in time (in general 1995 and 2002). The eight countries for which we have data (Belgium, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands and Spain) represent a large proportion of the EU with different labour market institutions. Wage differentials are estimated using the so called Structure of Earnings Survey (SES), a dataset of matched employer-employee data, collected from a large sample of firms in each country. The SES contains rich information on the structure and distribution of earnings and on the individual characteristics of employers and employees on a comparable basis across countries, and thus provides a unique dataset to estimate inter-industry wage differentials. In addition, the fact that these data are available for two points in time, allows us to investigate the relationship between relative wage adjustments and changes in the industry structure and performance, changes in the degree of competition in both product and labour markets and changes in institutional features. The period covered is characterised by significant technological progress, economic globalization of European markets and changes in the environment in which European labour markets operate, which could have had an impact on the national wage structures. Having established the existence of sizeable raw and conditional wage differentials, the paper attempts to answer the following three questions. (a) Is there evidence to support the view that inter-industry wage differentials reflect

---

<sup>1</sup> The WDN is a ESCB/Eurosystem research network which studies the features and sources of wage and labour cost dynamics in EU countries. Recent work in a European context on the issue of inter-industry wage differentials was also conducted in the context of the *Pay Inequality and Economic Performance* project (PIEP) using only the 1995 SES data (see Marsden, 2005). While even more recently, Magda *et al.* (2008) look at the issue across a large number of countries using, however, only the 2002 SES data.

*unobserved* employee quality? (b) Are differences in industry rents and structure associated with the estimated conditional inter-industry wage differentials? (c) Do labour market institutions play a role in explaining differences across industries in their ability to capture rents?

The rest of the paper is structured as follows: the next section provides a selective overview of the related literature. Section 3 briefly describes the data sets used, Section 4 discusses the observed (raw) wage differentials in the 8 countries, and Section 5 presents and discusses the conditional differentials that emerge after having controlled for individual, job and firms' characteristics. Section 6 investigates the importance of unobserved workers' ability as a potential determinant of inter-industry wage differentials. Section 7 focuses on the hypothesis that conditional inter-industry wage differentials reflect rent-sharing between employers and employees. Finally, Section 8 concludes.

## 2. Literature review

The existence of industry wage differentials has been extensively documented in the economics literature. One of the earliest pieces of documentation is the evidence provided by Slichter (1950). In the late 1980s the interest in the topic was revived by a series of papers that focused on the US and investigated various facets of the issue. For example, Krueger and Summers (1987 and 1988), Murphy and Topel (1987) and Gibbons and Katz, (1992) looked at the role of unobserved quality in explaining inter-industry wage differentials; the influence of institutional factors, the persistence of these differentials over time and the similarity of the structure of wages across countries was addressed in Krueger and Summers (1987) and across occupations in Dickens and Katz (1987). All of the above studies conclude that industry wage differentials persist over time, but the explanations for this phenomenon differ. The aforementioned papers, with the exception of that of Murphy and Topel, appear to hold the view that inter-industry wage differentials cannot be explained by competitive labour market theories since individuals with similar ability appear to gain more in certain industries, and these are the same industries that pay higher wages across countries and over time. Non-competitive explanations along the lines of a combination of efficiency wage theories and rent sharing seem to fit the facts better. Murphy and Topel (1987), on the other hand, challenge this view by applying a different methodology taking into account the fact that the sorting of abilities across industries is correlated with job attributes. They conclude that about two-thirds of industry wage differentials are due to unmeasured worker characteristics while the remaining third is ascribed to compensation for the instability of jobs within certain industries.

The results of the ensuing literature would suggest that unobserved labour quality might be more important than found in the literature previously, and the similarity of the differentials across countries is not as great as claimed until then. One could say that since the late 1980s the literature has followed mainly three directions in trying to resolve the controversy between competitive and non-competitive explanations of inter-industry wage differentials. The first, is based on international comparisons (see, *inter alia*, the list of studies presented in Table 1), the second route focuses on the methodologies applied in measuring the magnitude of the differentials and on the various assumptions made about the endogeneity or otherwise of occupational and industry choice, while the third direction pertains to the exploration of longer panels of individuals (see, *inter alia*, Carruth *et al.*, 2004).

As already mentioned above, the verdict of the earlier literature regarding international comparisons was that despite certain differences in the magnitude of the inter-industry variation of wages, the rankings of industries remained relatively similar across countries a fact that was difficult to reconcile with an institutional factors' interpretation. Edin and Zetterberg (1992) is one of the first papers to question the similarity in the structures; using *micro* data for Sweden, the authors illustrate that the raw and conditional dispersion of wages in Sweden is narrower than in the US. They ascribe the difference between their findings and those reached in the earlier literature to the use of micro-level data, while earlier conclusions on cross-country comparisons were based on aggregate data. Zanchi (1995) using data for 5 countries (US, Canada, Australia, Germany and the Netherlands) also finds that there is not much similarity in the wage structure across countries. Both the Edin and Zetterberg and the Zanchi papers attribute the differences in the wage structure between countries to divergence in institutions.

As for the methodological differences, the 1990s literature on the topic makes use of more disaggregated industry information, uses individual level longitudinal data for long periods of time, explores the hypothesis that firm (rather than industry) wage policies are prevalent, and further examines the wage distribution within industries in order to test for evidence of differences in qualities between workers which are difficult to measure. Abowd, Kramarz and Margolis (1999) for example are able to separate worker and firm fixed effects and conclude that a large portion of wage variation in France is due to unobserved person fixed effects.<sup>2</sup> Goux and Maurin (1999) also estimate inter-industry wage differentials from a panel data set of individuals in France over the period 1990-95 and find that (a) the support

---

<sup>2</sup> Postel-Vinay and Robin (2002) allow for endogenous job mobility (on-the-job search) and search frictions. This creates heterogeneous bargaining power among firms and therefore different degrees of rent extraction. In that case the unobserved person effect is much smaller and decreases with the observed skill level of employees.



or otherwise of the unobserved quality hypothesis depends on the level of industry wage disaggregation used, (b) the most important factor in determining individuals' wages is not in which industry but in which firm the individual works in. Martins (2004) investigates the unobserved quality hypothesis by studying inter-industry wage differences in different quantiles of the distribution. The reasoning behind this line of investigation is that if unobserved ability is significant in explaining industry wage structure, industry wage differentials would be wider at the top quantile of the wage distribution. Using micro-level data for Portugal, Martins is unable, however, to find evidence in favour of the unobserved quality hypothesis. More recently, Gibbons *et al.* (2005) develop a model in which wage changes and sector mobility are endogenous. Their model is estimated using US longitudinal data for a large number of individuals over 17 years. The results suggest that while the higher wages paid in certain industries, such as *Financial intermediation* and *Professional and Business services* could be due to unobserved worker quality, this cannot explain the wage differences in *Extraction and Mining*, *Manufacturing* and *Construction*.

Table 1: Indicative studies on cross-country inter-industry wage differentials

| Authors                           | Data   | Countries and period covered   | Main conclusions   |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Edin & Zetterberg (1992)          | Micro-level data   | Sweden and US for 1984   | Magnitude of conditional inter-industry wage differentials significantly smaller in Sweden than in the US. Correlations of wage structures across countries estimated on the basis of wage differentials arising from aggregate data overestimate the similarities.  |
| Gittleman & Wolff (1993)          | Industry-level data  | 14 OECD countries, 1970-85   | Ranking of industries within each country shows little variation over time. Size of differentials depends positively on productivity growth, output growth and capital intensity and negatively on the degree of import penetration.   |
| Zanchi (1995)                     | Micro level data from the Luxembourg Income Study Databank | US (1986), Canada (1987), Australia (1986), Germany (1985), Netherlands (1987) | Little similarity of conditional wage differentials across countries. Importance of demographic, human capital and socio-economic characteristics in explaining inter-industry differentials varies across countries. Importance of institutional factors (e.g. degree of centralization of negotiations) in explaining cross-country differences in wage structure. |
| Erdil & Yetkiner (2001)           | Industry-level data  | 20 countries, 1970-92  | Wage structure similar across developed and developing world but explanations for this might differ across these two groups of countries.  |
| Hartog, Opstal, & Teulings (1987) | Micro-level data   | Netherlands and the US   | Dutch and US wage differentials correlate strongly, but the standard deviation in The Netherlands is up to 50% smaller. Tenure profiles are flatter in The Netherlands and firm size matters less. The difference may be partly due to more the degree of bargaining centralisation.   |
| Rycx, Tojerow & Valsamis (2008)   | Micro-level data   | 6 West-European and 4 East-European countries, 2002                            | The ranking of sectors in terms of wages, even after controlling for characteristics, is quite similar in Eastern and Western European countries. A negative correlation between the dispersion of inter-industry wage differentials and the degree of corporatism across countries is found.  |

Source: Referenced papers.

### 3. Data

The present study is based on micro data from the first two waves (generally 1995 and 2002) of the Structure of Earnings Surveys (SES) carried out by the national statistical offices of Belgium, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain. The SES is a standardized survey conducted in 20 European countries. However, the choice of countries used in this paper was driven by data accessibility. From 2002, the survey is conducted every 4 years although at the moment this work was conducted only two waves were available.<sup>3</sup> The surveys are carried out on a sample of plants selected by stratified random sampling (stratification is done by economic activity, size and for certain countries region) while within plants a random sample of employees was chosen.<sup>4</sup> The SES provides individual earnings data for employees with detailed human capital and demographic characteristics per worker and information on firm (employer) features. The first wave refers to the mid-1990s (1995 for most countries, 1996 for Hungary and 1999 for Belgium), and the second wave refers to the start of the current decade (2002 for most countries except Germany for which it refers to 2001). The three main advantages of the data are: (a) the earnings information provided is standardised across countries, (b) this information is repeated over time and (c) since the data are collected through the employer, the measurement error usually associated with household data is much smaller.

The samples include, in most countries establishments with at least 10 employees, active in industry (including construction) and services.<sup>5</sup> The industries, at the 2-digit NACE rev 1.1. level, covered for each country are presented in Table A6, while a list with the description of each two-digit industry is given in Table A7. The sample of employees includes both full-time and part-time employees, but interim and occasional workers with the exception of apprentices are not sampled. The survey provides detailed information on monthly and annual earnings. The number of hours worked both normal and overtime, is also recorded. Employee characteristics include age, education, gender, citizenship, occupation, type of contract (fixed term or indefinite length), management or supervisory position, and length of tenure within the firm. Firm characteristics include region, industry, firm total employment, type of economic and financial control of the firm (private or public), the principal market for

---

<sup>3</sup> The most recent wave of the SES (2006) has only become available very recently and for a small number of the countries in this analysis.

<sup>4</sup> In Italy and the Netherlands employer information refers to the firm rather than the plant. The same is true for Belgium if the firm has several plants within the same municipality. For Hungary the sectoral classification of the unit of observation refers to the activity of the firm rather than the plant.

<sup>5</sup> This includes in general sections C to K of the economic activity classification scheme NACE rev. 1.1. Table A6 also presents details regarding sample size and the sectors covered in each country.

the firm's products, and the level at which wage bargaining takes place. A list and short description of the variables used in the analysis is presented in Table A5.

Four alternative measures of earnings were constructed, wherever possible, with the available data: (i) average annual earnings including overtime and regular bonuses but excluding irregular bonuses, (ii) average hourly earnings including regular bonuses and absences paid at full rate but excluding irregular bonuses, (iii) average hourly earnings including overtime, regular and irregular bonuses as well as absences paid at full rate, and (iv) total annual earnings before tax including all regular and irregular pay components. Our preferred variable is the first since this is the one typically used in similar studies and it was possible to construct it for every year and country.<sup>6</sup> For countries belonging to the Euro Area (EA) in 2002, monetary variables have been expressed in euros using the irrevocable exchange rates at which countries converted their national currencies to the euro.

The samples analysed for almost all countries contain both men and women aged between 16 and 65 years old.<sup>7</sup> In certain countries (Belgium, Greece, and Hungary) the sample includes only individuals in the private sector, while for the remaining countries public-private sector differences are taken into account by using a dummy in the regressions. The occupational classification used is the single-digit International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88) which organises occupations in ten main groups. The regressions contain occupational dummies for 8 groups.<sup>8</sup>

Individuals for which earnings information was either not available or which were thought to be outliers on the basis of their earnings information in the sample have been excluded. More specifically, workers with earnings falling below the first and above the 99th percentile within each sector have been excluded.<sup>9</sup> For each country the analysis is restricted to individuals belonging to sectors sampled in both waves.

---

<sup>6</sup> Except for Hungary, for which we cannot calculate it for 1996. Therefore, we use the second measure instead for both waves. We think this is a good proxy as in 2002 the two measures are very similar.

<sup>7</sup> In Greece workers younger than 25 and older than 64 were excluded, to increase the homogeneity of the sample in terms of marital status which is a determinant of pay (married individuals receive a benefit equal to 10% of the basic wage) and is not available as a separate piece of information in 2002.

<sup>8</sup> Employees classified as belonging either to the Armed Forces (ISCO group 0) or as 'Skilled agriculture and fishery workers' (ISCO group 6) have been excluded from the sample.

<sup>9</sup> In Greece the excluded workers are those with monthly earnings less than 80% of the basic minimum monthly salary or over 20 times the basic minimum monthly salary.

#### 4. Observed inter-industry differentials

In this section we look at observed wage differentials across industries at the NACE2 level.<sup>10</sup> By this we mean raw differentials not controlling for worker, job or firm characteristics, calculated as the deviations of (log) mean sectoral wages from a measure of aggregate wages. Figure 1 summarises the main facts by plotting the raw industry differentials across around 40 2-digit (according to NACE Rev.1 classification) industries in each country in each of the two years for which SES data is available.<sup>11</sup> When comparing these differentials across countries and over the two years, the following four facts stand out. First, as already well-documented in the literature, inter-industry raw wage differentials are sizeable. In our sample, on average, the standard deviation of the raw differentials across countries and over time is around 22%. Second, the ranking of industries in terms of the size of the differentials appears to be similar across countries. In general, *Extraction and Mining, Petroleum, Nuclear and Chemical industries*, the *Utilities* and the *Financial and Insurance* sectors are amongst the highest paying industries in most countries. The lowest paying industries include *Clothing, Leather and Textiles* industries. Third, despite the similarity of industry rankings across countries, there appears to be some cross-country variation in the extent to which wages differ. Dispersion is highest in Spain, Ireland, Hungary, and Greece and lowest in Belgium, Germany and Italy. Fourth, differentials appear to persist over time. The Spearman rank correlation of the average observed wage differentials within countries between the two years varies between 0.8 and 0.9 (see Tables 2 and 3).

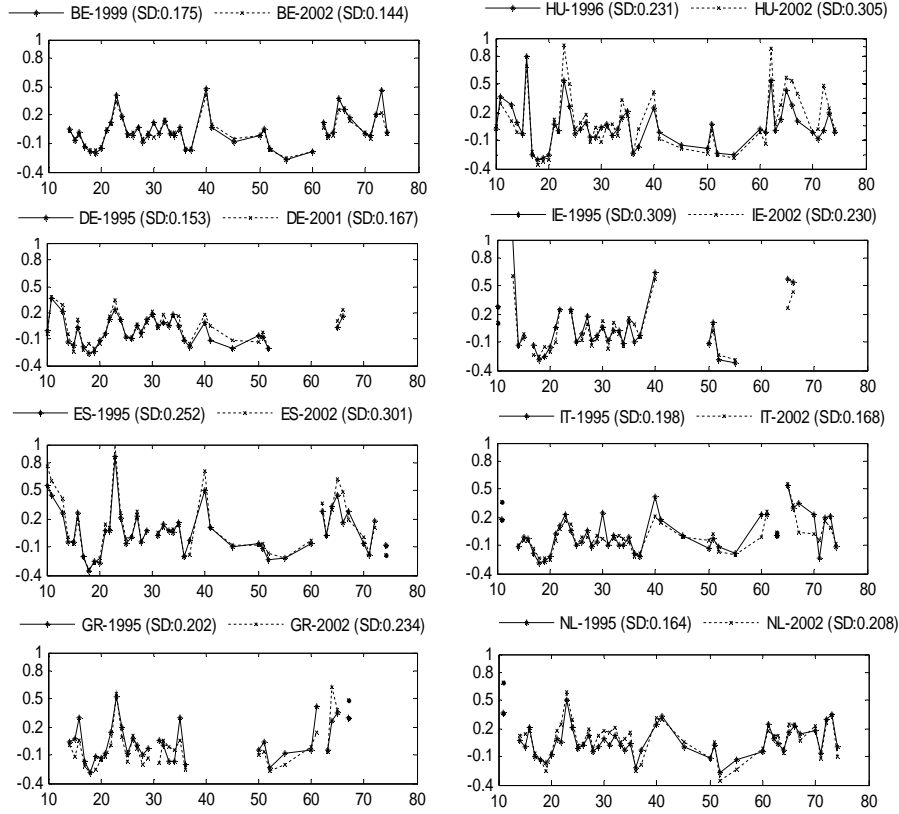
Appendix table A1 reports in more detail the observed wage differentials for eight EU countries in the first year of our sample where wage differences are expressed in 100 percentage points. Table A2 shows the same information for the second year.

---

<sup>10</sup> This level of classification is comparable to the 43 (2-digit SIC) industry groups used in Krueger and Summers (1988).

<sup>11</sup> The number of two-digit industries used in the analysis varies from 45 in the Netherlands to 31 in Ireland and 32 in Greece.

Figure 1: Raw industry wage differentials by two-digit NACE rev.1 industry, SES  
(industry classification code on the horizontal axes)



Industries classified as high and low paying respectively are more or less the same across countries; Table 2 reports Spearman rank correlation coefficients between observed industry wage differentials for all countries in 2002. The correlations range from 0.6226 between Ireland and Hungary to 0.9278 between Belgium and The Netherlands, and are all significant at the 5 p.c. level. While the rank correlation is very high, the data show cross-country differences in the actual size of the differentials by industry and in the overall extent of dispersion (Table 3). The observed wage differential for the *Chemical industries* varies from a mere 0.059 in Italy to 0.274 in Hungary, while the premium in the *Financial Intermediation* industry ranges from 0.582 in Ireland to only 0.04 in Germany. Similarly, at the lower end of the wage distribution where one finds industries that are classified as old in Europe, namely *Clothing, Leather and Textiles* industries and *Retail Trade* and *Hotels and Restaurants* - the negative observed differential for the *Clothing Industry* ranges from -0.127 in The Netherlands to -0.357 in Hungary, and in *Retail Trade* the negative premium lies between -0.160 in Italy and -0.360 in The Netherlands. As for the overall extent of dispersion this appears (Table 3) to be highest in Ireland, Spain, Hungary and Greece and lower in Belgium, Germany and Italy.

Table 2: Spearman rank correlation between observed wage differentials in countries in 2002

|                 | BE      | ES      | DE <sup>2</sup> | GR      | HU      | IE      | IT      | NL |
|-----------------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----|
| BE              | 1       |         |                 |         |         |         |         |    |
| ES              | 0.9104* | 1       |                 |         |         |         |         |    |
| DE <sup>2</sup> | 0.8626* | 0.8443* | 1               |         |         |         |         |    |
| GR              | 0.8400* | 0.7757* | 0.6957*         | 1       |         |         |         |    |
| HU              | 0.8635* | 0.9078* | 0.7435*         | 0.7574* | 1       |         |         |    |
| IE              | 0.7461* | 0.7296* | 0.6757*         | 0.7391* | 0.6226* | 1       |         |    |
| IT              | 0.7748* | 0.7530* | 0.6809*         | 0.7574* | 0.7139* | 0.7591* | 1       |    |
| NL              | 0.9278* | 0.8983* | 0.7774*         | 0.7539* | 0.8096* | 0.7217* | 0.7296* | 1  |

<sup>2</sup> Germany: 2001 instead of 2002. \* Significant at the 5 p.c. level.

Table 3: Standard deviations of observed wage differentials in 1995 and 2002

|                 | 1995  | 2002  | Change |
|-----------------|-------|-------|--------|
| BE <sup>1</sup> | 0.175 | 0.144 | -0.031 |
| DE <sup>2</sup> | 0.153 | 0.167 | 0.014  |
| ES              | 0.252 | 0.301 | 0.049  |
| GR              | 0.202 | 0.234 | 0.032  |
| HU <sup>3</sup> | 0.231 | 0.305 | 0.074  |
| IE              | 0.309 | 0.230 | -0.079 |
| IT              | 0.198 | 0.168 | -0.030 |
| NL              | 0.164 | 0.208 | 0.044  |

<sup>1</sup> Belgium: 1999 instead of 1995.

<sup>2</sup> Germany: 2001 instead of 2002.

<sup>3</sup> Hungary: 1996 instead of 1995

Table 4: Spearman rank correlation of observed wage differentials between 1995 and 2002

| BE <sup>1</sup> | DE <sup>2</sup> | ES    | GR    | HU <sup>3</sup> | IE    | IT    | NL    |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0.935           | 0.932           | 0.967 | 0.822 | 0.860           | 0.929 | 0.855 | 0.929 |

<sup>1</sup> Belgium: 1999 instead of 1995. <sup>2</sup> Germany: 2001 instead of 2002. <sup>3</sup> Hungary: 1996 instead of 1995. All correlations are significant at the 1 p.c. level.

Within countries, the ranking of sectors has remained broadly unchanged between 1995 and 2002. Table 4 shows that Spearman rank correlation coefficients of the industry rankings across the two years are highly significant (at the 1% level) and range from 0.822 in Greece to 0.967 in Spain. However, the change of the extent of dispersion varies across countries.

## 5. What role for observable workforce and job characteristics?

The observed differentials of the average wage across industries summarised in the previous section could reflect differences in worker and or job features across industries; an industry employing more skilled and productive workers is expected to offer higher wages. In this section we try to control for observable productive features of the employees and characteristics of the workplace they are employed in. To this effect we follow the literature

and rely on the estimates from extended Mincer (1974) equations for each year and each country. The estimated specification is of the following form

$$\ln w_i = \alpha + \sum_j \beta_j X_{ji} + \sum_k \gamma_k Y_{ki} + \sum_h \delta_h Z_{ih} + \eta_i \quad (1)$$

where  $w_i$  represents the wage of individual  $i$ ,  $X$  is a vector of workers' observable individual and job related features (age, education, gender, citizenship, tenure, type of contract, management/supervisory position, etc.),  $Y$  is the vector of employers' characteristics (firm size, location, type of economic and financial control of the firm, principal market for the firm's products, level at which bargaining takes place, etc.).<sup>12</sup> Finally,  $Z$  represents the industry dummies. The parameters of interest are the  $\delta_h$  where  $h=1, \dots, H$ , where  $H+1$  is the number of NACE 2-digit industries in each country sample,  $\delta_h$  measures the wage differential, *ceteris paribus*, in industry  $h$  relative to the omitted industry ( $H+1$ ). Following Zanchi (1998) we calculate inter-industry wage differentials for all  $H+1$  industries with respect to a weighted (by sample employment) average as:

$$\begin{cases} d_{kh} = \delta_h - \pi \\ d_{H+1} = -\pi \end{cases} \quad (\text{for } h=1, \dots, H) \quad (2)$$

where

$$\pi = \sum_{h=1}^H \bar{s}_h \delta_h \quad (\text{for } h=1, \dots, H). \text{ With } \delta_h \text{ being the estimated sector coefficient from}$$

equation (1) and  $\bar{s}_h = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N s_{h,i} \quad (\text{for } h=1, \dots, H)$  being the sectoral employment share in the observed sample.

The standard errors of the industry wage differentials  $d$  in equation (1) can be calculated by adjusting those of the original OLS estimate  $\delta_h$ . For that we transform the original variance-covariance matrix following Zanchi (1998):

$$\mathbf{var-cov}(\delta^*) = (\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{es}')(\mathbf{var-cov}(\delta))(\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{es})'$$

where  $K$  is a  $((H+1) \times H)$  matrix constructed as the stack of an  $(H \times H)$  identity matrix and a  $(1 \times K)$  row of zeros,  $e$  is a  $((H+1) \times 1)$  vector of ones,  $s$  is the vector of employment shares of the  $H$  first industries, and  $\mathbf{var-cov}(\delta)$  is the original variance-covariance matrix of the

<sup>12</sup> Appendix Table A5 lists all conditioning variables.



industry dummy coefficients. The standard errors of  $d$  are simply the square roots of the diagonal elements of this transformed variance-covariance matrix.

To transform the differentials from log points to 100 percentage points and also to take into account the fact that these are sample and population parameters we transform coefficient estimates according to:

$$\tilde{d} = \exp(d - 0.5 * \sigma_d^2) - 1$$

where  $d$  is the industry wage differential in log-points and  $0.5 * \sigma_d^2$  half the variance of the industry wage differential (see Reilly and Zanchi, 2003).

Appendix Tables A3 and A4 report conditional wage premia for the eight EU countries, according to equation (2), using the coefficients on sector dummies estimated by equation (1).<sup>13</sup> The first point to note from Tables A3 and A4 is that inter-industry wage differences remain significant even after controlling for a comprehensive set of worker, job and firm characteristics. A large number of these differentials are significant at the 1% level and all of them are significant at the 5% level. Nevertheless, as expected, conditional wage differentials tend to be smaller in size than the observed ones. In fact, the differential explained through these characteristics can be substantial; as an example, note that in 2002 the highly positive observed wage differential for a worker in the *Coke, Petroleum Production and Nuclear Fuel* industry in Greece of 56.3%, and for a worker in the *Electricity, Gas and Water supply* in Ireland of 57.1% are reduced to conditional wage premia of 15.3% and 21.0% respectively (see tables A2 and A4). In the low-paying industries, wage penalties in 2002 for workers in the Hungarian clothing industry of -35.7% and in the Dutch retail trade of -36.0% are reduced to differentials of -16.2% and -12.3% after conditioning.

The reduction in magnitude of the differentials once the conditioning factors are taken into account in general does not alter the ranking of sectors within each country. The Spearman correlation coefficients between observed and conditional wage differentials in 1995 and 2002, reported in Table 5, are all statistically significant different from zero and lie between 0.732 in Hungary in 1995 and 0.925 in Ireland in 1995.

---

<sup>13</sup> Estimates of the conditional inter-industry wage differentials for Greece and Spain have been borrowed from Izquierdo and Lamo (2008) and Nicolitsas (2008) respectively, that are also WDN research papers, follow the same methodology and use same data as in this paper. SES estimations for Italy, Ireland and Spain were done at the Safe Center in Eurostat and those for Germany via remote access at DEstat (Germany). The data for The Netherlands was accessible from Statistics Netherlands through remote access at De Nederlandsche Bank.

Table 5: Spearman rank correlation between observed and conditional wage differentials

|                   | BE    | DE    | ES    | GR    | HU    | IE    | IT    | NL    |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1995 <sup>1</sup> | 0.799 | 0.745 | 0.820 | 0.881 | 0.732 | 0.925 | 0.860 | 0.835 |
| 2002 <sup>2</sup> | 0.772 | 0.901 | 0.854 | 0.848 | 0.830 | 0.827 | 0.876 | 0.820 |

<sup>1</sup> Belgium: 1999 instead of 1995. 2002, Hungary: 1996 instead of 1995.<sup>2</sup> Germany: 2001. All correlations are significant at the 1% level.

Furthermore, the ranking of sectors in terms of conditional wage premia, as was the case with the observed wage premia, is very similar across countries. Spearman correlation coefficients of the rankings between countries, presented in Table 6, are mostly significant at the 5% level. High-wage jobs are still to be found in the *Extraction and Oil and Chemical* industries, as well as in *Financial Intermediation*. Conditional differentials are mostly negative in Clothing and Leather industries and in *Retail Trade* and *Hotels and Restaurants*.

Table 6: Spearman rank correlation between conditional wage differentials in countries in 2002

|                 | BE     | DE <sup>1</sup> | ES     | GR     | HU     | IE     | IT     | NL |
|-----------------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----|
| BE              | 1      |                 |        |        |        |        |        |    |
| DE <sup>1</sup> | 0.712* | 1               |        |        |        |        |        |    |
| ES              | 0.924* | 0.748*          | 1      |        |        |        |        |    |
| GR              | 0.616* | 0.414*          | 0.723* | 1      |        |        |        |    |
| HU              | 0.740* | 0.616*          | 0.761* | 0.456* | 1      |        |        |    |
| IE              | 0.540* | 0.370           | 0.405* | 0.277  | 0.320  | 1      |        |    |
| IT              | 0.901* | 0.511*          | 0.839* | 0.660* | 0.655* | 0.471* | 1      |    |
| NL              | 0.806* | 0.526*          | 0.741* | 0.474* | 0.711* | 0.424* | 0.753* | 1  |

<sup>1</sup> Germany: 2001 instead of 2002. \* Significant at the 5% level.

Similarly to what was the case for observed wage differentials, the ranking of conditional industry wage premia has remained rather stable between 1995 and 2002. Table 7 shows highly significant (at the 1% level) rank correlation coefficients between the conditional wage differentials in 1995 and 2002 in each country, ranging from 0.735 in Hungary to 0.944 in Germany.

Table 7: Spearman rank correlation between conditional wage premia in 1995 and 2002

| BE <sup>1</sup> | DE <sup>2</sup> | ES    | GR    | HU <sup>3</sup> | IE    | IT    | NL    |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0.772           | 0.944           | 0.865 | 0.788 | 0.735           | 0.765 | 0.738 | 0.813 |

<sup>1</sup> Belgium: 1999 instead of 1995. <sup>2</sup> Germany: 2001 instead of 2002. <sup>3</sup> Hungary: 1996 instead of 1995. All correlations are significant at the 1% level.

Again, despite these similarities, we observe that differences across countries in terms of dispersion of these conditional wage differentials exist. The standard deviations of

conditional wage premia in the selected countries in 1995 and 2002, reported in Table 8, are, as expected, smaller than those of the observed wage differentials (Table 3). They are relatively high in Hungary, Spain, and Ireland and relatively low in Belgium and Germany. Between 1995 and 2002, the dispersion of conditional differentials decreased in Belgium, Greece, Hungary and Ireland; while it increased in Italy, Spain and The Netherlands, and remained more or less stable in Germany.<sup>14</sup>

Table 8: Standard deviations of conditional wage premia in 1995 and 2002

|                 | 1995  | 2002  | Change |
|-----------------|-------|-------|--------|
| BE <sup>1</sup> | 0.084 | 0.072 | -0.012 |
| DE <sup>2</sup> | 0.089 | 0.090 | 0.001  |
| ES              | 0.134 | 0.171 | 0.037  |
| GR              | 0.123 | 0.104 | -0.019 |
| HU <sup>3</sup> | 0.196 | 0.156 | -0.040 |
| IE              | 0.166 | 0.136 | -0.030 |
| IT              | 0.098 | 0.114 | 0.016  |
| NL              | 0.086 | 0.102 | 0.016  |

<sup>1</sup> Belgium: 1999 instead of 1995.

<sup>2</sup> Germany: 2001 instead of 2002.

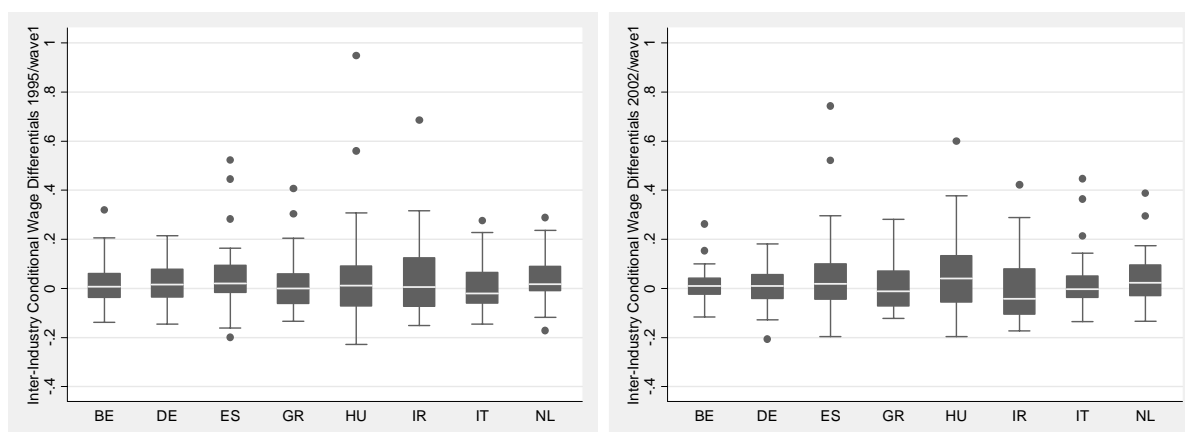
<sup>3</sup> Hungary: 1996 instead of 1995.

An alternative way of presenting this information is Figure 2 which shows box plots of the conditional inter-industry wage differentials in each of the eight countries for both SES waves, thus providing an overview of the within country distribution of these wage differentials. The solid box comprises the observations from the 25th to the 75th decile; the horizontal line within the box represents the median, the upper and lower horizontal lines indicate the largest and smallest non-outlier observations, and the dots denote outliers. The spread is highest for Spain, Hungary and Ireland, and is lowest for Belgium and Germany.

It is the level of these remaining conditional differentials that we seek to explain in Section 7 after first having had a look at the role of unobserved personal effects in explaining industry wage differentials at each point in time.

<sup>14</sup> Comparing two points in time does not allow one to draw conclusions about trends in the movement of wage differentials. Du Caju *et al.* (2010) show that inter-industry wage differentials have decreased in Belgium between 1999 and 2002 and have risen after that and until 2005, more or less in phase with the economic cycle.

Figure 2: Distribution of conditional wage differentials in 1995 and 2002



## 6. What role for unobservable employee characteristics?

Having established that for the countries in our sample wage differentials across industries are not fully explained by worker, job and firms' characteristics, i.e. conditional wage differentials are still significant and show similar patterns to the observed ones, we now try to gather some evidence on whether unobserved quality of workers could be a factor behind these differentials. For that we follow Martins (2004) who argues that if conditional wage differentials reflect compensation for unobservable labour quality one would expect the wage premia to be higher at the top end of the distribution. Our results do not lend support to this hypothesis.

We first test, for each industry, whether workers at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the wage distribution receive on average higher wage premia than those at the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile. Appendix Tables A8 show the difference between the conditional differentials for each country and year, resulting from the estimation of extended Mincer regressions at the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles. It also shows the p-value from an F-test of the hypothesis that the differentials at the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles are equal. Industries are ordered in ascending order of the size of the premium arising from estimation over the whole distribution (i.e. following the estimates presented in Tables A3 and A4). The evidence reveals that while in most countries and industries, the differences between 90th and 10th percentile are significant, in most instances the wage differentials are *higher* at the lower end of the distribution (10<sup>th</sup>) than at the top end of the distribution (90<sup>th</sup>), which goes against the unobserved quality hypothesis. Furthermore, Table A8 which summarises this information and presents the average difference in the differentials separately for low-wage industries and for high-wage industries, shows that in a number of instance the differential is

not more positive for the highest paying industries. We therefore do not find evidence to support the unobservable quality hypothesis as an explanation of industry wage differentials.

## 7. What role for industry structure, performance and labour market institutions?

So far we have concluded that in contrast with the predictions of competitive labour market models, identical workers performing comparable jobs but working in different industries are paid different wages. We next turn to explore the role of industry specific characteristics and labour market institutions in explaining the conditional wage differentials across industries, with the aim of investigating rent sharing theories.<sup>15</sup> In terms of the equations presented in Section 5 the object of interest in this section (the dependent variable) is variable  $\hat{d}_k$  from equation 2.

The estimated specification is the following:

$$\hat{d}_{kt} = \gamma_0 + \theta_j + \mu_t + \sum_{i=1} \gamma_i * Q_{ikt} + \sum_{i=1} \lambda_i * V_{jt} + \varepsilon_{kt} \quad (3)$$

where  $\theta_j$  are country dummies,  $\mu_t$  are wave dummies,  $Q_{ikt}$  are a set of industry-level variables (gross operating surplus per employee, share of small firms in the industry) and  $V_{jt}$  represent country-level institutional variables capturing for example the extent of collective agreement coverage in the industry.

We first confront the wage differentials with several measures of industry rents. Table 9 (columns 1-5) shows that industry rents are positively correlated with industry wage differentials supporting the view that industries share rents with their workers. Rents are proxied here by the average real gross operating surplus per employee in the industry; similar results arise, however, with other proxies (e.g. real value added per employee). There is also some evidence that the importance of rent sharing differs across industries; interacting the rents variable with dummies for eight standard groups of industries, the results (not shown) suggest that the elasticity of the wage differential with respect to rents is higher in mining-refining, utilities and financial intermediation.<sup>16</sup>

Next, we look at measures of product market competition, the understanding being that more intense product market competition implies lower rents to be shared. Table 9 shows that there is a negative relationship between sector-level competition and industry wage

<sup>15</sup> Support for rent sharing in one of the countries in our sample, namely Belgium, is also well documented in Du Caju *et al.* (forthcoming) who use firm-level rents data and show that wage differentials decrease substantially when controlling for firms profits.

<sup>16</sup> The non-homogeneity of this elasticity across sectors is also found by Gibbons *et al.* (2005).

differentials (columns 2 and 3). Product market competition is proxied by the share of firms with less than 20 employees, the results however are robust to other proxies such as, for example, the industry price cost mark-ups estimated by Christopoulou and Vermeulen (2008).

Table 9: Rent sharing and institutions as explanations of wage differentials

|  | (1)                 | (2)                  | (3)                  | (4)                 | (5)                 | (6)               |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|  | Levels              |                      |                      |                     |                     | Change            |
| Rents  |                     |                      |                      |                     |                     |                   |
| Real gross operating surplus per worker (GOS)                              | 0.049***<br>(0.014) |                      | 0.038***<br>(0.011)  | 0.074***<br>(0.020) | 0.045***<br>(0.016) | 0.026*<br>(0.015) |
| PM competition<br>% of small firms in the industry                         |                     | -0.347***<br>(0.057) | -0.295***<br>(0.076) |                     |                     |                   |
| Bargaining structures<br>% firms with firm-level collective agreement *GOS |                     |                      |                      | 0.030*<br>(0.016)   |                     |                   |
| Collective agreement coverage* GOS   |                     |                      |                      |                     | 0.062***<br>(0.020) |                   |
| Observations   | 526                 | 517                  | 423                  | 229                 | 206                 | 260               |
| R <sup>2</sup>   | 0.18                | 0.24                 | 0.37                 | 0.51                | 0.60                | 0.08              |

Notes: 1. OLS regressions weighted by the average sample size of the regression used to calculate the wage differentials. Robust s.e. in brackets. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. All regressions include country dummies and where appropriate also wave fixed effects. 2. In column (6) GOS is measured as the change between the two waves. 3. GOS is not available for Ireland; information on the share of small firms per industry is missing for Greece. The sample in columns (4) and (5) include only the second wave since the bargaining structures data are only available at one point in time.

Delving a little deeper, we also investigate whether differences in the degree of rent sharing are related to union clout. To this effect we investigate the role of two variables describing bargaining structures: the percentage of firms in the industry with a firm-level collective agreement, and the extent of collective agreement coverage in the industry.<sup>17</sup> The results (as shown in the interaction terms in columns 4 and 5) suggest that rent sharing is more intense, the higher the percentage of firms with a firm-level collective agreement in the industry and the higher the collective agreement coverage. Of course, the former result by no means establishes a causal relationship since high rent sharing could impact bargaining structures.

It must further be noted that despite being small, the changes in wage differentials from the first to the second wave in our sample are significantly correlated with the change in industries' rents (see column 6 Table 9).

<sup>17</sup> The data on the percentage of firms with a collective agreement and collective agreement coverage are drawn from the WDN firm-level survey (see Druant *et al.*, 2009 for details), and do not vary over time. Country-level information gathered by the WDN (see Du Caju *et al.*, 2008) shows that these variables have remained rather stable in the countries under review between the two reference points in time.

Although we cannot with the available data formally exclude other non-competitive explanations of the conditional differentials (e.g. efficiency wages), we can conclude from the above that inter-industry wage differentials are consistent with rent sharing.

Finally, in an attempt to find out which factors are associated with wider dispersion of the inter-industry wage differential we correlate the standard deviations of the conditional wage premia (presented in Table 8) with a number of institutional variables (Product Market Regulation, Barriers to Competition, Barriers to Entrepreneurship; Employment Protection Legislation, Trade Union Density, Degree of Co-ordination in wage bargaining, Bargaining centralization). These correlations, presented in Table 10, are in most instances not statistically significant. One which comes out quite significant, however, is the correlation between the standard deviation of the conditional wage premia and the degree of bargaining co-ordination. in line with the general finding in the literature (see, for example, Freeman, 2007) that wage bargaining co-ordination is associated with less wage inequality; the higher is the level of co-ordination the lower is the standard deviation of the inter-industry wage differentials.

Table 10: Correlation coefficients between the dispersion of differentials and a number of variables capturing institutional product and labour market characteristics

|       | PMR  | BTC  | BTE   | EPL    | TUD   | CO       | CE    |
|-------|------|------|-------|--------|-------|----------|-------|
| SDCWP | 0.13 | 0.09 | -0.35 | -0.42* | 0.033 | -0.70*** | -0.29 |

Notes: Total number of observations used is 16 (8 countries \* 2 waves). SDCWP: Standard deviation of the conditional wage premia (see Table 8), PMR: Product market regulation index from the OECD PMR Database ([www.oecd.org/eco/pmr](http://www.oecd.org/eco/pmr)); the higher the value of the index the more regulation exist; BTC and BTE: Barriers to Competition and Entrepreneurship respectively from the OECD PMR database ([www.oecd.org/eco/pmr](http://www.oecd.org/eco/pmr)); EPL: Employment Protection Legislation Index (version 2) from the OECD database (OECD (2004) Table A2.4, p.117 (the higher the value of the index the more employment protection exists); TUD: trade union density figures from OECD Statistics database; CO: index of bargaining coordination from OECD Statistics database; CE: index of bargaining centralization from OECD Statistics database. Significance at the 10%, 5% and 1% levels denoted by \*, \*\* and \*\*\* respectively.

## 8. Conclusions

Using the European SES for eight countries and two points in time this paper shows that inter-industry wage differentials are significant and persist over time. Summarizing, we find that:

- (i) The ranking of sectors in terms of observed wage differentials, in the EU countries we study is persistent over time and similar across countries;
- (ii) A rich set of observable workforce and job characteristics explain less than half of the raw inter-industry wage differentials;
- (iii) The ranking of sectors in terms of conditional differentials is similar to that in terms of observed wage differentials and exhibits stability over time and great similarity across countries;
- (iv) The dispersion of observed and conditional wage differentials differs across countries and time. Dispersion is relatively high in Hungary, Spain and Ireland and relatively low in Belgium and Germany;
- (v) There is no evidence to support the unobserved quality hypothesis as an explanation of these conditional differentials;
- (vi) Confronting the conditional wage differentials with industry-level measures of profits and of product market competition, we find that inter-industry wage differentials may reflect inter industry variation in rents and industry structure. Rent-sharing is enhanced by collective bargaining coverage in general and by firm-level agreements in particular.



## References

- Abowd, J.M., F. Kramarz and D.N. Margolis (1999), "High Wage Workers and High Wage Firms", *Econometrica*, Vol.67, No.2, pp. 251-333.
- Carruth, A., W. Collier and A. Dickerson (2004), "Inter-industry wage differences and individual heterogeneity", *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, Vol.66, No.5, pp. 811-46.
- Christopoulou, R. and P. Vermeulen (2008), "Markups in the Euro Area and the US Over the Period 1981-2004 – a Comparison of 50 Sectors", ECB Working Paper No. 856.
- Dickens, W. and L.F. Katz (1987), "Inter-industry wage differences and industry characteristics" in *Unemployment and the structure of labor markets*, eds. Lang, K. and J. Leonard, pp. 48-89, London: Basil Blackwell.
- Druant, M., S. Fabiani, G. Kezdi, A. Lamo, F. Martins, and R. Sabbatini (2009), "How Are Firms' Wages and Prices Linked: Survey Evidence in Europe", ECB Working Paper No. 1084.
- Du Caju Ph., F. Rycx and I. Tojerow (forthcoming), "Inter-industry wage differentials: how much does rent sharing matter?", The Manchester School, *forthcoming*.
- Du Caju, Ph., E. Gautier, D. Momferatou and M. Ward-Warmedinger (2008), "Institutional Features of Wage Bargaining in 23 EU Countries, the US and Japan", ECB Working Paper No. 974.
- Edin, P-A. and J. Zetterberg (1992), "Inter-industry wage differentials: evidence from Sweden and a comparison with the United States", *American Economic Review*, Vol.82, No.5, pp. 1341-49.
- Erdil, E. and I.H. Yetkiner (2001), "A comparative analysis of inter-industry wage differentials: industrialised versus developing countries", *Applied Economics*, Vol.33, pp. 1639-48.
- Freeman, R. (2007), "Labour Market Institutions around the World", NBER Working Paper No. 13242.
- Gibbons, R. and L.F. Katz (1992), "Does unmeasured ability explain inter-industry wage differentials?", *Review of Economic Studies*, Vol. 59, No.3, pp. 515-35.
- Gibbons, R. L.F. Katz, T. Lemieux, D. Parent (2005), "Comparative advantage, learning and sectoral wage determination", *Journal of Labor Economics*, Vol.23, No.4, pp. 681-723.
- Gittleman, M. and E.N. Wolff (1993), "International comparisons of inter-industry wage differentials", *Review of Income and Wealth*, Series 39, No.3, pp. 295-312.
- Goux, D. and E. Maurin (1999), "The Persistence of Inter-Industry Wages Differentials: a Reexamination on Matched Worker-firm Panel Data", *Journal of Labor Economics*, Vol.17, No.3, pp. 492-533.
- Hartog, J., R. van Opstal, and C.N. Teulings (1997), "Inter-industry wage differentials and tenure effect in the Netherlands and the US", *De Economist*, Vol. 145, No.1, pp. 91-99.
- Izquierdo, M. and A. Lamo (2008), "Sectoral wage differences in Spain, 1995-2002", mimeo, ECB.
- Krueger, A.B. and L.H. Summers (1987), "Reflections on the inter industry wage structure" in *Unemployment and the structure of labor markets*, eds. Lang, K. and J. Leonard, pp. 17-47, London: Basil Blackwell.
- Krueger, A.B. and Summers L. H. (1988), "Efficiency Wages and Inter-Industry Wage Structure", *Econometrica*, Vol. 56, No. 2, pp. 259-93.

- Lewis, H.G. (1963), *Unionism and relative wages in the United States: an empirical enquiry*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Magda, I., F. Rycx, I. Tojerow, and D. Valsamis (2008), "Wage Differentials Across Sectors in Europe: an East-West Comparison", IZA Discussion Paper No.3830.
- Marsden D. (2005), PIEP Project Report, available at <http://cep.lse.ac.uk/piep/>
- Martins P.S. (2004), "Industry Wage Premia: Evidence from the Wage Distribution", *Economics Letters*, Vol. 83, pp. 157-163.
- Mincer J. (1974), *Schooling, Experience and Earnings*, New York: National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Murphy, K.M. and R.H. Topel (1987), "Unemployment, risk, and earnings: testing for equalizing wage differences in the labor market" in *Unemployment and the structure of labor markets*, eds. Lang, K. and J. Leonard, pp. 103-40, London: Basil Blackwell.
- Nicolitsas, D. (2008), "Industry wage differentials in Greece: evidence using the 1995 and 2002 Structure of Earnings Survey, mimeo, Bank of Greece.
- OECD (2004), *Employment Outlook*, Paris: OECD.
- Postel-Vinay, F. and J-M. Robin (2002), "Equilibrium wage dispersion with worker and employer heterogeneity", *Econometrica*, Vol. 70, pp.2295-2350.
- Reilly, K.T. and L. Zanchi (2003), "Industry Wage Differentials: How Many, Big and Significant Are They?", *International Journal of Manpower*, Vol. 24, No. 4, pp. 367-398.
- Rycx, F., I. Tojerow and D. Valsamis (2008), "Inter-industry wage differentials in Europe: an east-west comparison", Paper presented at the 2008 EALE Conference in Amsterdam.
- Slichter, S.H. (1950), "A note on the structure of wages", *Review of Economics and Statistics*, Vol. 32, No.1, pp. 80-91.
- Zanchi, L. (1995), "Cross-country comparisons of the inter-industry wage structure: empirical evidence with the Luxembourg Income Study Data-bank", University of York Discussion Paper in Economics 95/18.
- Zanchi L. (1998), "Inter-industry Wage Differentials in Dummy Variable Models", *Economics Letters*, Vol. 60, 297-301.

## Appendix

**Table A1. Observed wage differentials in 1995**

|   | BE <sup>1</sup> | ES     | DE     | GR     | HU <sup>2</sup> | IE     | IT     | NL     |
|---|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 10 Mining of coal and lignite, extraction of peat                 | .               | 0.567  | -0.009 | .      | 0.024           | 0.276  | .      | .      |
| 11 Extraction of petroleum and gas                                | .               | 0.452  | 0.372  | .      | 0.371           | .      | 0.179  | 0.374  |
| 13 Mining of metal ores   | .               | 0.266  | 0.225  | .      | 0.276           | 1.105  | .      | .      |
| 14 Other mining and quarrying                                     | 0.047           | -0.046 | -0.133 | 0.033  | 0.087           | -0.137 | -0.111 | 0.069  |
| 15 Food products and beverages                                    | -0.063          | -0.041 | -0.170 | 0.080  | -0.032          | -0.043 | -0.014 | 0.013  |
| 16 Tobacco products   | 0.021           | 0.270  | 0.041  | 0.302  | 0.798           | .      | -0.023 | 0.219  |
| 17 Textiles   | -0.140          | -0.202 | -0.191 | -0.165 | -0.247          | -0.139 | -0.191 | -0.095 |
| 18 Clothing   | -0.191          | -0.356 | -0.253 | -0.291 | -0.307          | -0.291 | -0.290 | -0.130 |
| 19 Leather  | -0.210          | -0.261 | -0.251 | -0.118 | -0.295          | -0.261 | -0.262 | -0.166 |
| 20 Wood and cork  | -0.156          | -0.278 | -0.113 | -0.126 | -0.257          | -0.148 | -0.226 | -0.083 |
| 21 Paper  | 0.041           | 0.079  | -0.040 | -0.075 | 0.080           | 0.055  | 0.021  | 0.093  |
| 22 Printing and publishing  | 0.117           | 0.078  | 0.128  | 0.149  | 0.000           | 0.243  | 0.108  | 0.056  |
| 23 Coke, petrol. prod. and nuclear fuel                           | 0.412           | 0.877  | 0.230  | 0.519  | 0.537           | .      | 0.237  | 0.516  |
| 24 Chemical and chemical products                                 | 0.193           | 0.213  | 0.127  | 0.192  | 0.274           | 0.250  | 0.059  | 0.222  |
| 25 Rubber and plastic products                                    | 0.005           | -0.065 | -0.075 | -0.084 | -0.022          | -0.095 | -0.100 | -0.008 |
| 26 Other non-metallic mineral products                            | -0.009          | 0.004  | -0.098 | 0.068  | 0.018           | -0.017 | -0.070 | 0.025  |
| 27 Basic metals   | 0.064           | 0.227  | 0.057  | -0.001 | 0.094           | 0.185  | 0.059  | 0.123  |
| 28 Fabricated metal products                                      | -0.087          | -0.054 | -0.023 | -0.092 | -0.055          | -0.078 | -0.109 | -0.040 |
| 29 Machinery and equipment  | -0.015          | 0.083  | 0.121  | -0.028 | -0.059          | -0.032 | -0.055 | 0.003  |
| 30 Office machinery and computers                                 | 0.124           | .      | 0.189  | .      | 0.039           | 0.065  | 0.254  | 0.091  |
| 31 Electrical machinery and apparatus                             | 0.000           | 0.015  | 0.043  | 0.057  | 0.077           | -0.074 | -0.095 | 0.024  |
| 32 Radio, television and communication equipment                  | 0.130           | 0.141  | 0.081  | 0.014  | -0.043          | 0.025  | 0.002  | 0.124  |
| 33 Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks | 0.004           | 0.078  | 0.048  | -0.171 | 0.025           | 0.031  | -0.105 | 0.022  |
| 34 Motor vehicles and trailers -trailers                          | -0.022          | 0.062  | 0.173  | -0.160 | 0.136           | -0.107 | -0.091 | -0.027 |
| 35 Other transport equipment                                      | 0.067           | 0.162  | 0.045  | 0.302  | 0.222           | 0.126  | -0.018 | 0.042  |
| 36 Furniture, manufacturing                                       | -0.165          | -0.207 | -0.108 | -0.204 | -0.232          | -0.103 | -0.180 | -0.213 |
| 37 Recycling  | -0.166          | -0.025 | -0.179 | .      | -0.160          | -0.035 | -0.214 | -0.022 |
| 40 Electricity, gas and water supply                              | 0.477           | 0.516  | 0.095  | .      | 0.240           | 0.642  | 0.418  | 0.244  |
| 41 Collection, purification and distribution of water             | 0.078           | 0.114  | -0.108 | .      | -0.004          | .      | 0.182  | 0.341  |
| 45 Construction   | -0.084          | -0.092 | -0.211 | .      | -0.147          | .      | 0.007  | 0.006  |
| 50 Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | -0.020          | -0.071 | -0.061 | -0.049 | -0.176          | -0.112 | -0.129 | -0.109 |
| 51 Wholesale trade  | 0.053           | -0.109 | -0.081 | 0.036  | 0.072           | 0.108  | -0.029 | 0.025  |
| 52 Retail trade   | -0.158          | -0.244 | -0.202 | -0.233 | -0.239          | -0.287 | -0.123 | -0.279 |
| 55 Hotels and restaurants   | -0.279          | -0.217 | .      | -0.079 | -0.246          | -0.319 | -0.188 | -0.125 |
| 60 Land transport and pipelines                                   | -0.180          | -0.058 | .      | -0.045 | 0.018           | .      | 0.239  | -0.051 |
| 61 Water transport  | .               | .      | .      | 0.413  | -0.004          | .      | 0.231  | 0.247  |
| 62 Air transport  | 0.119           | 0.286  | .      | .      | 0.548           | .      | .      | 0.096  |
| 63 Transport activities   | -0.020          | 0.020  | .      | -0.041 | 0.002           | .      | 0.001  | 0.039  |
| 64 Post and telecommunications                                    | 0.022           | 0.328  | .      | 0.268  | 0.119           | .      | .      | -0.030 |
| 65 Financial intermediation                                       | 0.372           | 0.451  | 0.040  | 0.352  | 0.433           | 0.582  | 0.538  | 0.166  |
| 66 Insurance and pension funding                                  | 0.256           | 0.155  | 0.164  | .      | 0.283           | 0.541  | 0.301  | 0.223  |
| 67 Activities auxiliary to fin. intermed.                         | 0.164           | 0.284  | .      | 0.293  | 0.105           | .      | 0.359  | 0.137  |
| 70 Real estate activities   | 0.000           | -0.055 | .      | .      | -0.006          | .      | 0.223  | 0.174  |
| 71 Renting of machinery   | -0.020          | -0.185 | .      | .      | -0.088          | .      | -0.236 | -0.056 |
| 72 Computer and related activities                                | 0.213           | 0.177  | .      | .      | 0.004           | .      | 0.199  | 0.295  |
| 73 Research and development                                       | 0.456           | .      | .      | .      | 0.202           | .      | 0.212  | 0.356  |
| 74 Other businesses activities                                    | 0.016           | -0.078 | .      | .      | -0.018          | .      | -0.115 | 0.007  |

<sup>1</sup> 1999 for Belgium, <sup>2</sup> 1996 for Hungary

**Table A2. Observed wage differentials in 2002**

|   | BE     | ES     | DE <sup>1</sup> | GR     | HU     | IE     | IT     | NL     |
|---|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 10 Mining of coal and lignite, extraction of peat                 | .      | 0.759  | -0.047          | .      | 0.061  | 0.106  | .      | .      |
| 11 Extraction of petroleum and gas                                | .      | 0.610  | 0.385           | .      | 0.297  | .      | 0.364  | 0.692  |
| 13 Mining of metal ores   | .      | 0.416  | 0.296           | .      | 0.118  | 0.607  | .      | .      |
| 14 Other mining and quarrying                                     | 0.035  | -0.001 | -0.047          | 0.012  | -0.009 | -0.127 | -0.099 | 0.126  |
| 15 Food products and beverages                                    | -0.053 | -0.064 | -0.236          | -0.109 | -0.022 | -0.003 | -0.042 | 0.150  |
| 16 Tobacco products   | -0.014 | 0.195  | 0.131           | 0.065  | 0.705  | .      | -0.042 | 0.182  |
| 17 Textiles   | -0.118 | -0.207 | -0.218          | -0.213 | -0.220 | -0.243 | -0.133 | -0.055 |
| 18 Clothing   | -0.161 | -0.344 | -0.158          | -0.295 | -0.357 | -0.246 | -0.242 | -0.127 |
| 19 Leather  | -0.171 | -0.268 | -0.199          | -0.259 | -0.314 | -0.158 | -0.236 | -0.257 |
| 20 Wood and cork  | -0.135 | -0.220 | -0.144          | -0.152 | -0.303 | -0.201 | -0.253 | -0.058 |
| 21 Paper  | 0.053  | 0.139  | -0.043          | -0.109 | 0.126  | -0.091 | -0.050 | 0.172  |
| 22 Printing and publishing  | 0.108  | 0.105  | 0.168           | -0.002 | -0.011 | 0.255  | 0.072  | 0.254  |
| 23 Coke, petrol. prod. and nuclear fuel                           | 0.335  | 1.039  | 0.338           | 0.563  | 0.923  | .      | 0.154  | 0.586  |
| 24 Chemical and chemical products                                 | 0.180  | 0.272  | 0.133           | 0.093  | 0.505  | 0.230  | 0.134  | 0.297  |
| 25 Rubber and plastic products                                    | -0.013 | -0.015 | -0.072          | -0.162 | 0.017  | -0.106 | -0.092 | 0.026  |
| 26 Other non-metallic mineral products                            | 0.012  | 0.014  | -0.076          | 0.114  | 0.084  | -0.073 | -0.015 | 0.047  |
| 27 Basic metals   | 0.064  | 0.287  | 0.071           | -0.031 | 0.179  | 0.101  | -0.016 | 0.201  |
| 28 Fabricated metal products                                      | -0.052 | -0.047 | -0.062          | -0.195 | -0.116 | -0.139 | -0.077 | -0.012 |
| 29 Machinery and equipment  | 0.013  | 0.080  | 0.091           | -0.139 | 0.044  | -0.064 | 0.000  | 0.121  |
| 30 Office machinery and computers                                 | -0.030 | .      | 0.210           | .      | -0.110 | 0.134  | -0.028 | 0.184  |
| 31 Electrical machinery and apparatus                             | 0.012  | 0.050  | 0.040           | -0.176 | 0.037  | -0.171 | -0.075 | 0.158  |
| 32 Radio, television and communication equipment                  | 0.147  | 0.102  | 0.181           | 0.053  | 0.080  | 0.104  | -0.025 | 0.206  |
| 33 Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks | 0.010  | 0.078  | 0.069           | -0.008 | -0.048 | -0.009 | -0.001 | 0.059  |
| 34 Motor vehicles and trailers -trailers                          | 0.016  | 0.094  | 0.155           | -0.040 | 0.329  | -0.135 | -0.030 | 0.097  |
| 35 Other transport equipment                                      | 0.042  | 0.146  | 0.161           | 0.056  | 0.162  | 0.157  | -0.055 | 0.161  |
| 36 Furniture, manufacturing                                       | -0.147 | -0.203 | -0.090          | -0.245 | -0.234 | 0.085  | -0.222 | -0.248 |
| 37 Recycling  | -0.158 | -0.186 | -0.156          | .      | 0.029  | -0.046 | -0.177 | -0.181 |
| 40 Electricity, gas and water supply                              | 0.404  | 0.711  | 0.175           | .      | 0.419  | 0.571  | 0.222  | 0.315  |
| 41 Collection, purification and distribution of water             | 0.111  | 0.113  | 0.052           | .      | -0.077 | .      | 0.145  | 0.294  |
| 45 Construction   | -0.056 | -0.077 | -0.123          | .      | -0.191 | .      | -0.015 | 0.065  |
| 50 Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | -0.024 | -0.076 | -0.137          | -0.096 | -0.229 | -0.111 | -0.045 | -0.121 |
| 51 Wholesale trade  | 0.031  | -0.065 | -0.021          | -0.071 | -0.001 | 0.020  | 0.023  | 0.055  |
| 52 Retail trade   | -0.171 | -0.164 | -0.200          | -0.262 | -0.253 | -0.228 | -0.160 | -0.360 |
| 55 Hotels and restaurants   | -0.261 | -0.225 | .               | -0.204 | -0.282 | -0.283 | -0.208 | -0.244 |
| 60 Land transport and pipelines                                   | -0.180 | -0.025 | .               | -0.015 | -0.013 | .      | -0.013 | -0.007 |
| 61 Water transport  | .      | .      | .               | 0.153  | -0.131 | .      | 0.269  | 0.176  |
| 62 Air transport  | 0.075  | 0.371  | .               | .      | 0.888  | .      | .      | 0.121  |
| 63 Transport activities   | -0.030 | 0.030  | .               | -0.063 | 0.072  | .      | 0.043  | 0.122  |
| 64 Post and telecommunications                                    | -0.018 | 0.307  | .               | 0.633  | 0.287  | .      | .      | -0.059 |
| 65 Financial intermediation                                       | 0.250  | 0.624  | 0.100           | 0.382  | 0.584  | 0.272  | 0.566  | 0.242  |
| 66 Insurance and pension funding                                  | 0.271  | 0.489  | 0.228           | .      | 0.548  | 0.436  | 0.326  | 0.250  |
| 67 Activities auxiliary to fin. intermed.                         | 0.139  | 0.189  | .               | 0.482  | 0.401  | .      | 0.042  | 0.074  |
| 70 Real estate activities   | 0.012  | 0.009  | .               | .      | -0.007 | .      | 0.015  | 0.233  |
| 71 Renting of machinery   | -0.044 | -0.173 | .               | .      | 0.024  | .      | -0.044 | -0.107 |
| 72 Computer and related activities                                | 0.206  | 0.116  | .               | .      | 0.483  | .      | 0.167  | 0.265  |
| 73 Research and development                                       | 0.215  | .      | .               | .      | 0.255  | .      | 0.099  | 0.357  |
| 74 Other businesses activities                                    | 0.000  | -0.179 | .               | .      | 0.015  | .      | -0.084 | -0.096 |

<sup>1</sup> 2001 for Germany

**Table A3. Conditional wage premia in 1995**

|   | BE <sup>1</sup> | ES     | DE     | GR     | HU <sup>2</sup> | IE     | IT     | NL     |
|---|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 10 Mining of coal and lignite, extraction of peat                 | .               | 0.522  | -0.115 | .      | 0.091           | 0.058  | .      | .      |
| 11 Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas                  | .               | 0.164  | 0.180  | .      | 0.228           | .      | 0.065  | 0.236  |
| 13 Mining of metal ores   | .               | 0.109  | 0.214  | .      | 0.561           | 0.685  | .      | .      |
| 14 Other mining and quarrying                                     | 0.079           | 0.088  | -0.013 | 0.107  | 0.224           | -0.152 | -0.031 | 0.108  |
| 15 Food products and beverages                                    | -0.004          | -0.007 | -0.083 | 0.031  | 0.054           | -0.039 | 0.033  | 0.058  |
| 16 Tobacco products   | 0.061           | 0.132  | 0.085  | 0.100  | 0.948           | .      | 0.023  | 0.167  |
| 17 Textiles   | -0.043          | -0.161 | -0.119 | -0.062 | -0.113          | -0.077 | -0.097 | -0.026 |
| 18 Clothing   | -0.115          | -0.199 | -0.141 | -0.126 | -0.131          | -0.076 | -0.145 | -0.011 |
| 19 Leather  | -0.079          | -0.106 | -0.146 | 0.006  | -0.128          | -0.113 | -0.118 | -0.039 |
| 20 Wood and cork  | -0.050          | -0.126 | -0.020 | -0.062 | -0.083          | -0.061 | -0.113 | -0.005 |
| 21 Paper  | 0.069           | 0.024  | -0.005 | -0.031 | 0.111           | 0.128  | 0.065  | 0.094  |
| 22 Printing and publishing  | 0.092           | 0.039  | 0.145  | 0.054  | -0.012          | 0.161  | 0.074  | 0.018  |
| 23 Coke, petrol. prod. and nuclear fuel                           | 0.205           | 0.446  | 0.118  | 0.156  | 0.283           | .      | 0.121  | 0.289  |
| 24 Chemical and chemical products                                 | 0.102           | 0.061  | 0.043  | 0.059  | 0.143           | 0.142  | 0.014  | 0.111  |
| 25 Rubber and plastic products                                    | 0.029           | -0.016 | -0.033 | -0.003 | 0.011           | 0.007  | -0.039 | -0.003 |
| 26 Other non-metallic mineral products                            | 0.032           | 0.042  | -0.037 | 0.060  | 0.088           | 0.005  | -0.024 | 0.027  |
| 27 Basic metals   | 0.055           | 0.093  | 0.043  | 0.002  | 0.113           | 0.099  | 0.038  | 0.050  |
| 28 Fabricated metal products                                      | -0.011          | 0.013  | 0.009  | -0.057 | 0.007           | -0.015 | -0.032 | -0.028 |
| 29 Machinery and equipment  | -0.014          | 0.025  | 0.041  | -0.066 | -0.030          | -0.009 | -0.039 | -0.022 |
| 30 Office machinery and computers                                 | 0.043           | .      | 0.057  | .      | 0.035           | 0.020  | 0.003  | -0.012 |
| 31 Electrical machinery and apparatus                             | 0.006           | -0.009 | 0.016  | -0.003 | 0.043           | -0.012 | -0.060 | -0.009 |
| 32 Radio, television and communication equipment                  | 0.023           | 0.006  | 0.020  | -0.089 | -0.057          | 0.029  | -0.030 | -0.001 |
| 33 Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks | -0.022          | -0.040 | 0.016  | -0.134 | -0.044          | 0.023  | -0.056 | -0.027 |
| 34 Motor vehicles and trailers -trailers                          | -0.003          | 0.016  | 0.103  | -0.092 | 0.061           | -0.074 | -0.058 | -0.040 |
| 35 Other transport equipment                                      | 0.027           | 0.052  | 0.020  | 0.041  | 0.047           | -0.009 | -0.071 | -0.005 |
| 36 Furniture, manufacturing                                       | -0.089          | -0.115 | -0.036 | -0.101 | -0.095          | -0.032 | -0.098 | -0.171 |
| 37 Recycling  | -0.047          | 0.074  | -0.029 | .      | 0.005           | 0.125  | -0.081 | 0.006  |
| 40 Electricity, gas and water supply                              | 0.319           | 0.283  | 0.090  | .      | 0.151           | 0.316  | 0.228  | 0.133  |
| 41 Collection, purification and distribution of water             | -0.038          | 0.124  | 0.109  | .      | 0.018           | .      | 0.121  | 0.185  |
| 45 Construction   | 0.019           | 0.032  | 0.078  | .      | -0.072          | .      | 0.054  | 0.030  |
| 50 Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 0.008           | 0.012  | -0.038 | -0.045 | -0.086          | -0.076 | -0.018 | -0.070 |
| 51 Wholesale trade  | 0.005           | -0.061 | -0.094 | 0.036  | 0.061           | 0.068  | -0.020 | 0.011  |
| 52 Retail trade   | -0.064          | -0.098 | -0.111 | -0.100 | -0.157          | -0.146 | -0.041 | -0.117 |
| 55 Hotels and restaurants   | -0.138          | -0.011 | .      | -0.026 | -0.144          | -0.137 | -0.065 | 0.022  |
| 60 Land transport and pipelines                                   | -0.092          | 0.006  | .      | -0.016 | -0.010          | .      | 0.146  | -0.006 |
| 61 Water transport  | .               | .      | .      | 0.406  | -0.162          | .      | 0.038  | 0.126  |
| 62 Air transport  | 0.102           | 0.120  | .      | .      | 0.307           | .      | .      | 0.018  |
| 63 Transport activities   | -0.027          | 0.012  | .      | 0.002  | -0.008          | .      | 0.053  | 0.041  |
| 64 Post and telecommunications                                    | -0.049          | 0.114  | .      | 0.204  | 0.029           | .      | .      | -0.043 |
| 65 Financial intermediation                                       | 0.131           | 0.095  | 0.050  | 0.191  | 0.237           | 0.243  | 0.276  | 0.090  |
| 66 Insurance and pension funding                                  | 0.074           | -0.028 | 0.011  | .      | -0.056          | 0.213  | 0.130  | 0.076  |
| 67 Activities auxiliary to fin. intermed.                         | 0.052           | 0.148  | .      | 0.304  | -0.044          | .      | 0.154  | 0.099  |
| 70 Real estate activities   | 0.015           | 0.066  | .      | .      | 0.065           | .      | 0.215  | 0.130  |
| 71 Renting of machinery   | 0.007           | -0.018 | .      | .      | 0.012           | .      | -0.108 | 0.017  |
| 72 Computer and related activities                                | -0.028          | -0.017 | .      | .      | -0.228          | .      | 0.014  | 0.074  |
| 73 Research and development                                       | 0.117           | .      | .      | .      | -0.096          | .      | -0.067 | 0.083  |
| 74 Other businesses activities                                    | -0.014          | -0.079 | .      | .      | -0.047          | .      | -0.057 | -0.008 |

<sup>1</sup> 1999 for Belgium<sup>2</sup> 1996 for Hungary

**Table A4. Conditional wage premia in 2002**

|   | BE     | ES     | DE <sup>1</sup> | GR     | HU     | IE     | IT     | NL     |
|---|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 10 Mining of coal and lignite, extraction of peat                 | .      | 0.742  | -0.207          | .      | 0.206  | -0.057 | .      | .      |
| 11 Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas                  | .      | 0.280  | 0.182           | .      | 0.295  | .      | 0.447  | 0.387  |
| 13 Mining of metal ores   | .      | 0.226  | 0.172           | .      | 0.047  | 0.422  | .      | .      |
| 14 Other mining and quarrying                                     | 0.057  | 0.132  | -0.007          | 0.097  | 0.158  | -0.108 | 0.032  | 0.098  |
| 15 Food products and beverages                                    | -0.001 | -0.048 | -0.128          | -0.048 | 0.037  | -0.015 | -0.004 | 0.107  |
| 16 Tobacco products   | 0.044  | 0.040  | 0.074           | 0.053  | 0.600  | .      | -0.052 | 0.095  |
| 17 Textiles   | -0.032 | -0.187 | -0.121          | -0.122 | -0.086 | -0.147 | -0.080 | -0.038 |
| 18 Clothing   | -0.100 | -0.196 | -0.091          | -0.093 | -0.162 | -0.145 | -0.112 | -0.057 |
| 19 Leather  | -0.084 | -0.145 | -0.111          | -0.059 | -0.133 | -0.130 | -0.101 | -0.030 |
| 20 Wood and cork  | -0.051 | -0.115 | -0.039          | -0.081 | -0.084 | -0.044 | -0.135 | -0.035 |
| 21 Paper  | 0.067  | 0.027  | 0.004           | -0.087 | 0.126  | 0.081  | 0.014  | 0.131  |
| 22 Printing and publishing  | 0.079  | 0.036  | 0.133           | 0.030  | -0.056 | 0.081  | 0.082  | 0.120  |
| 23 Coke, petrol. prod. and nuclear fuel                           | 0.154  | 0.521  | 0.166           | 0.153  | 0.378  | .      | 0.135  | 0.294  |
| 24 Chemical and chemical products                                 | 0.089  | 0.101  | 0.048           | -0.006 | 0.225  | 0.075  | 0.053  | 0.152  |
| 25 Rubber and plastic products                                    | -0.002 | -0.028 | -0.025          | -0.068 | 0.133  | -0.027 | -0.024 | 0.016  |
| 26 Other non-metallic mineral products                            | 0.041  | 0.036  | -0.028          | 0.108  | 0.128  | -0.070 | 0.012  | 0.022  |
| 27 Basic metals   | 0.042  | 0.105  | 0.053           | 0.048  | 0.117  | 0.079  | 0.026  | 0.045  |
| 28 Fabricated metal products                                      | 0.006  | 0.001  | -0.008          | -0.065 | 0.040  | -0.052 | -0.013 | -0.018 |
| 29 Machinery and equipment  | 0.010  | 0.014  | 0.033           | -0.036 | 0.074  | -0.046 | -0.010 | 0.023  |
| 30 Office machinery and computers                                 | -0.084 | .      | 0.048           | .      | -0.094 | -0.017 | 0.001  | -0.039 |
| 31 Electrical machinery and apparatus                             | -0.004 | -0.015 | 0.010           | -0.082 | 0.077  | -0.132 | -0.038 | 0.000  |
| 32 Radio, television and communication equipment                  | 0.039  | -0.016 | 0.057           | -0.095 | 0.070  | 0.027  | -0.011 | -0.007 |
| 33 Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks | -0.004 | -0.024 | 0.010           | 0.045  | -0.025 | -0.071 | -0.008 | -0.062 |
| 34 Motor vehicles and trailers -trailers                          | 0.029  | 0.018  | 0.088           | -0.029 | 0.225  | -0.107 | -0.004 | 0.025  |
| 35 Other transport equipment                                      | 0.028  | 0.034  | 0.055           | 0.089  | 0.027  | -0.043 | -0.042 | 0.043  |
| 36 Furniture, manufacturing                                       | -0.077 | -0.118 | -0.042          | -0.077 | -0.067 | 0.088  | -0.122 | -0.134 |
| 37 Recycling  | -0.019 | -0.059 | -0.078          | .      | 0.283  | -0.105 | -0.011 | -0.115 |
| 40 Electricity, gas and water supply                              | 0.263  | 0.296  | 0.105           | .      | 0.221  | 0.210  | 0.083  | 0.173  |
| 41 Collection, purification and distribution of water             | 0.100  | 0.060  | 0.081           | .      | -0.018 | .      | 0.122  | 0.159  |
| 45 Construction   | 0.029  | 0.068  | -0.014          | .      | -0.069 | .      | 0.034  | 0.063  |
| 50 Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 0.023  | -0.011 | -0.063          | -0.016 | -0.098 | -0.034 | -0.002 | -0.060 |
| 51 Wholesale trade  | 0.002  | -0.042 | -0.041          | -0.005 | -0.002 | 0.069  | -0.005 | 0.005  |
| 52 Retail trade   | -0.086 | -0.065 | -0.086          | -0.122 | -0.116 | -0.094 | -0.095 | -0.123 |
| 55 Hotels and restaurants   | -0.116 | -0.050 | .               | -0.061 | -0.120 | -0.174 | -0.114 | -0.104 |
| 60 Land transport and pipelines                                   | -0.099 | 0.021  | .               | 0.046  | -0.047 | .      | -0.031 | 0.013  |
| 61 Water transport  | .      | .      | .               | 0.157  | -0.196 | .      | 0.214  | 0.099  |
| 62 Air transport  | 0.033  | 0.179  | .               | .      | 0.206  | .      | .      | 0.043  |
| 63 Transport activities   | 0.009  | 0.005  | .               | 0.040  | 0.026  | .      | 0.047  | 0.079  |
| 64 Post and telecommunications                                    | -0.072 | 0.045  | .               | 0.255  | -0.036 | .      | .      | -0.014 |
| 65 Financial intermediation                                       | 0.090  | 0.203  | 0.055           | 0.099  | 0.295  | 0.193  | 0.364  | 0.093  |
| 66 Insurance and pension funding                                  | 0.094  | 0.195  | 0.035           | .      | 0.057  | 0.289  | 0.144  | 0.070  |
| 67 Activities auxiliary to fin. intermed.                         | 0.025  | 0.085  | .               | 0.281  | 0.130  | .      | 0.050  | 0.023  |
| 70 Real estate activities   | 0.023  | 0.098  | .               | .      | 0.007  | .      | 0.019  | 0.138  |
| 71 Renting of machinery   | -0.009 | -0.030 | .               | .      | 0.002  | .      | 0.027  | -0.068 |
| 72 Computer and related activities                                | -0.009 | -0.079 | .               | .      | 0.068  | .      | 0.054  | 0.004  |
| 73 Research and development                                       | -0.024 | .      | .               | .      | 0.048  | .      | 0.042  | 0.063  |
| 74 Other businesses activities                                    | -0.012 | -0.065 | .               | .      | -0.046 | .      | -0.112 | -0.015 |

<sup>2</sup> 2001 for Germany

**Table A5**

| nemonic  | Label  | Definition   | Country details <sup>18</sup>   |
|----------|--|--|---|
| Tenu     | Tenure   | Years of service with the enterprise (rounded downwards to full years) | NL 1995: missing.   |
| Age      | Employee age in years  |  | BE: grouped; EL 2002: grouped.  |
| PayP     | Total gross earnings in pay period   | Monthly earnings   |   |
| PayY     | Total gross annual earnings (incl. all regular & irregular pay components)                 | Annual earnings  | DE 2002: only for employees who were on the payroll for the full year; AT 2002 also includes payments in kind |
| PayHb    | Basic hourly wage, net of overtime and irregular bonuses                                   | $= (\text{payP} - \text{payOv}) / \text{hoursN}$                       |   |
| payH     | average hourly earning includes overtime, regular bonuses and full rate paid absences      | $= \text{payP} / \text{hoursT}$  | HU 1996: not available  |
| payHi    | average hourly earnings including irregular bonuses  | $= \text{payH} + \text{Ibonus} / \text{hoursY}$                        |   |
| payOV    | Overtime earnings in pay period  |  |   |
| hoursN   | Total (net of overtime) paid hours in pay period   |  |   |
| hoursT   | Log of hours paid in the ref. period includes overtime and absence hours paid at full rate | $= \text{hoursN} + \text{hoursOv}$                                     | HU 1996: not available  |
| hoursOv  | overtime hours in pay period   |  | HU 1996: not available  |
| hoursY   | hours worked per year <sup>19</sup>  | $= \text{months} * \text{hoursT}$                                      | HU 1996: not available  |
| Ibonus   | Annual paid irregular bonuses <sup>20</sup>  |  |   |
| months   | Number of months worked  | $= (\text{payY} - \text{Ibonus}) / \text{payP}$ , with a maximum of 12 |   |
| Exp      | Years of potential experience outside the company  | $\text{age} - \text{yedu} - 6 - \text{tenu}$                           | NL 1995 and HU: $\text{exp} = \text{age} - \text{yedu} - 6$ because tenu is missing                           |
| yedu     | Years of education   | Corresponding to the ISCED-97 classification                           | Country specific  |
| Voc      | 0,1 dummy  | $= 1$ if educ equals an ISCED level with vocational training           |   |
| Educ     | Highest completed level of education and training  | ISCED classification   |   |
| d_edu    | Set of dummies   | For each of the ISCED levels available                                 |   |
| d_nace   | Set of dummies   | For each of the 2-digit NACE classifications available                 |   |
| d_occone | Set of dummies   | For each of the ISCO single-digit occupations                          |   |
| d_priv   | 0,1 dummy  | Privately owned enterprise (>50% privately owned)                      | NL: almost all firms fall outside this category and in 'other'; EL: only private sector firms                 |
| d_reg    | Set of dummies   | Based on the NUTS 1 regions of each country                            |   |
| d_size   | Set of dummies   | For each of seven size categories in number of employees in the        | EL: size for 2002 in four groups (10-19, 20-49, 50-99, >100)  |

<sup>18</sup> NL = Netherlands, DE = Germany, BE = Belgium, ES = Spain, EL = Greece, IE = Ireland, IT = Italy, HU = Hungary, AT = Austria, CZ = Czech Republic.

<sup>19</sup> We checked that the number of months worked  $(\text{payY} - \text{Ibonus}) / \text{PayP}$  equals 12 for those not affected by absence before calculating annual hours worked.

<sup>20</sup> We performed checks that Ibonus did not include regular bonuses. In that case Ibonus should equal  $\text{payY} - 12 * \text{payP}$  for those not affected by absence.

|          |                |  |   |
|----------|----------------|--|---|
|          |                | local unit (or firm). (<=25, 25-50, 50-150, 150-250, 250-500, 500-1000, >1000)   |   |
| d_mark*  | Set of dummies | For each of the four categories of the principle market for enterprise's products (local or regional, national, EU, World) | NL and HU: missing  |
| d_female | 0,1 dummy      | =1 if gender is female   |   |
| d_indef  | 0,1 dummy      | =1 if contract if of indefinite duration   | HU: missing   |
| d_full   | 0,1 dummy      | =1 if full-time employee   | EL: only full-time employees used since part-time employment is very limited.                 |
| d_agr*   | 0,1 dummy      | For each of the types of collective agreements (national or interconfederal, industry, enterprise, single, other)          | NL 1995: industry and enterprise are considered as one type; NL 2002: missing.<br>HU: missing |
| d_ctz    | 0,1 dummy      | = 1 if employee is a national citizen  | NL, IR and HU: missing  |
| d_man    | 0,1 dummy      | =1 if employee holds management or supervisory position  |   |

**Table A6: Sample size and sectors covered by country**

| Country                       | Sample size 1995 | Sample size 2002 | Sectors covered   |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---|
| Belgium (1999 for first wave) | 101,302          | 102,941          | 14,15-37, 40-41,45, 50-55,60,62-67,70-74                    |
| Germany (2001 for first wave) | 652,676          | 467,932          | 10-11,13-14,15-37,40-41,50-52,65-66                         |
| Greece                        | 20,761           | 23,863           | 14,15-29,31-36,50-55,60-61,63-65,67                         |
| Hungary (1996 for first wave) | 91,578           | 119,019          | 10-11,13-14,15-37,40-41,45,50-55,60-74                      |
| Ireland                       | 36,727           | 16,359           | 10, 15-17, 20-22, 24-26, 28-31, 33, 35, 36, 50-55, 65-66    |
| Italy                         | 79,501           | 73,692           | 11,14,15-37,40-41,45,50-55,60,61,63,65-67,70-74             |
| The Netherlands               | 66,196           | 37,860           | 11,14-37,40-41,45,50-55,60-67,70-74                         |
| Spain                         | 170,697          | 173,487          | 10-11,13-14,15-29, 31-37,40-41,45, 50-55,60,62-67,70-72, 74 |



**Table A7**

| <b>NACE<br/>1-digit</b> | <b>NACE<br/>2-digit</b> | <b>Sector</b>   |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| C                       | R10                     | Mining of coal and lignite; extraction of peat  |
| C                       | R11                     | Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas; service activities incidental to oil and gas extraction, excluding surveying     |
| C                       | R12                     | Mining of uranium and thorium ores  |
| C                       | R13                     | Mining of metal ores  |
| C                       | R14                     | Other mining and quarrying  |
| D                       | R15                     | Manufacture of food products and beverages  |
| D                       | R16                     | Manufacture of tobacco products   |
| D                       | R17                     | Manufacture of textiles   |
| D                       | R18                     | Manufacture of wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of fur  |
| D                       | R19                     | Tanning and dressing of leather; manufacture of luggage, handbags, saddlery, harness and footwear                               |
| D                       | R20                     | Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials |
| D                       | R21                     | Manufacture of pulp, paper and paper products   |
| D                       | R22                     | Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media   |
| D                       | R23                     | Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products and nuclear fuel  |
| D                       | R24                     | Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products  |
| D                       | R25                     | Manufacture of rubber and plastic products  |
| D                       | R26                     | Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products  |
| D                       | R27                     | Manufacture of basic metals   |
| D                       | R28                     | Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment  |
| D                       | R29                     | Manufacture of machinery and equipment not elsewhere classified (n.e.c)   |
| D                       | R30                     | Manufacture of office machinery and computers   |
| D                       | R31                     | Manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus n.e.c.  |
| D                       | R32                     | Manufacture of radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus  |
| D                       | R33                     | Manufacture of medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks   |
| D                       | R34                     | Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers   |
| D                       | R35                     | Manufacture of other transport equipment  |
| D                       | R36                     | Manufacture of furniture; manufacturing n.e.c.  |
| D                       | R37                     | Recycling   |
| E                       | R40                     | Electricity, gas, steam and hot water supply  |
| E                       | R41                     | Collection, purification and distribution of water  |
| F                       | R45                     | Construction  |
| G                       | R50                     | Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; retail sale of automotive fuel                                  |
| G                       | R51                     | Wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles  |
| G                       | R52                     | Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; repair of personal and household goods                                  |
| H                       | R55                     | Hotels and restaurants  |
| I                       | R60                     | Land transport; transport via pipelines   |
| I                       | R61                     | Water transport   |
| I                       | R62                     | Air transport   |
| I                       | R63                     | Supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies  |
| I                       | R64                     | Post and telecommunications   |
| J                       | R65                     | Financial intermediation, except insurance and pension funding  |
| J                       | R66                     | Insurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security  |
| J                       | R67                     | Activities auxiliary to financial intermediation  |
| K                       | R70                     | Real estate activities  |
| K                       | R71                     | Renting of machinery and equipment without operator and of personal and household goods   |
| K                       | R72                     | Computer and related activities   |
| K                       | R73                     | Research and development  |
| K                       | R74                     | Other business activities   |

**TABLE A8: Average wage differentials gaps between the top and bottom of the distribution**

|             | Wave 1                      |                            | Wave 2                      |                            |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
|             | In higher paying industries | In lower paying industries | In higher paying industries | In lower paying industries |
| Belgium     | 0.0023                      | -0.0374                    | -0.0035                     | -0.0692                    |
| Germany     | 0.0921                      | 0.0967                     | 0.0446                      | 0.0821                     |
| Greece      | -0.0412                     | -0.1440                    | -0.1740                     | -0.1920                    |
| Hungary     | -0.1750                     | -0.1340                    | -0.0420                     | -0.1800                    |
| Ireland     | 0.0021                      | 0.0257                     | 0.0089                      | -0.1550                    |
| Italy       | -0.0454                     | -0.0830                    | -0.0207                     | -0.0838                    |
| Netherlands | -0.2120                     | -0.2390                    | -0.1140                     | -0.0607                    |
| Spain       | -0.0176                     | -0.0961                    | 0.1210                      | -0.0838                    |

*Note:* The average is calculated over the 25% of the highest (lowest) paying industries in each country.

## NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM - WORKING PAPERS SERIES

1. "Model-based inflation forecasts and monetary policy rules", by M. Dombrecht and R. Wouters, *Research Series*, February 2000.
2. "The use of robust estimators as measures of core inflation", by L. Aucremanne, *Research Series*, February 2000.
3. "Performances économiques des Etats-Unis dans les années nonante", by A. Nyssens, P. Butzen and P. Bisciari, *Document Series*, March 2000.
4. "A model with explicit expectations for Belgium", by P. Jeanfils, *Research Series*, March 2000.
5. "Growth in an open economy: Some recent developments", by S. Turnovsky, *Research Series*, May 2000.
6. "Knowledge, technology and economic growth: An OECD perspective", by I. Visco, A. Bassanini and S. Scarpetta, *Research Series*, May 2000.
7. "Fiscal policy and growth in the context of European integration", by P. Masson, *Research Series*, May 2000.
8. "Economic growth and the labour market: Europe's challenge", by C. Wyplosz, *Research Series*, May 2000.
9. "The role of the exchange rate in economic growth: A euro-zone perspective", by R. MacDonald, *Research Series*, May 2000.
10. "Monetary union and economic growth", by J. Vickers, *Research Series*, May 2000.
11. "Politique monétaire et prix des actifs: le cas des États-Unis", by Q. Wibaut, *Document Series*, August 2000.
12. "The Belgian industrial confidence indicator: Leading indicator of economic activity in the euro area?", by J.-J. Vanhaelen, L. Dresse and J. De Mulder, *Document Series*, November 2000.
13. "Le financement des entreprises par capital-risque", by C. Rigo, *Document Series*, February 2001.
14. "La nouvelle économie" by P. Bisciari, *Document Series*, March 2001.
15. "De kostprijs van bankkredieten", by A. Bruggeman and R. Wouters, *Document Series*, April 2001.
16. "A guided tour of the world of rational expectations models and optimal policies", by Ph. Jeanfils, *Research Series*, May 2001.
17. "Attractive prices and euro - Rounding effects on inflation", by L. Aucremanne and D. Cornille, *Documents Series*, November 2001.
18. "The interest rate and credit channels in Belgium: An investigation with micro-level firm data", by P. Butzen, C. Fuss and Ph. Vermeulen, *Research series*, December 2001.
19. "Openness, imperfect exchange rate pass-through and monetary policy", by F. Smets and R. Wouters, *Research series*, March 2002.
20. "Inflation, relative prices and nominal rigidities", by L. Aucremanne, G. Brys, M. Hubert, P. J. Rousseeuw and A. Struyf, *Research series*, April 2002.
21. "Lifting the burden: Fundamental tax reform and economic growth", by D. Jorgenson, *Research series*, May 2002.
22. "What do we know about investment under uncertainty?", by L. Trigeorgis, *Research series*, May 2002.
23. "Investment, uncertainty and irreversibility: Evidence from Belgian accounting data" by D. Cassimon, P.-J. Engelen, H. Meersman and M. Van Wouwe, *Research series*, May 2002.
24. "The impact of uncertainty on investment plans", by P. Butzen, C. Fuss and Ph. Vermeulen, *Research series*, May 2002.
25. "Investment, protection, ownership, and the cost of capital", by Ch. P. Himmelberg, R. G. Hubbard and I. Love, *Research series*, May 2002.
26. "Finance, uncertainty and investment: Assessing the gains and losses of a generalised non-linear structural approach using Belgian panel data", by M. Gérard and F. Verschueren, *Research series*, May 2002.
27. "Capital structure, firm liquidity and growth", by R. Anderson, *Research series*, May 2002.
28. "Structural modelling of investment and financial constraints: Where do we stand?", by J.-B. Chatelain, *Research series*, May 2002.
29. "Financing and investment interdependencies in unquoted Belgian companies: The role of venture capital", by S. Manigart, K. Baeyens, I. Verschueren, *Research series*, May 2002.
30. "Development path and capital structure of Belgian biotechnology firms", by V. Bastin, A. Corhay, G. Hübner and P.-A. Michel, *Research series*, May 2002.

31. "Governance as a source of managerial discipline", by J. Franks, *Research series*, May 2002.
32. "Financing constraints, fixed capital and R&D investment decisions of Belgian firms", by M. Cincera, *Research series*, May 2002.
33. "Investment, R&D and liquidity constraints: A corporate governance approach to the Belgian evidence", by P. Van Cayseele, *Research series*, May 2002.
34. "On the origins of the Franco-German EMU controversies", by I. Maes, *Research series*, July 2002.
35. "An estimated dynamic stochastic general equilibrium model of the euro area", by F. Smets and R. Wouters, *Research series*, October 2002.
36. "The labour market and fiscal impact of labour tax reductions: The case of reduction of employers' social security contributions under a wage norm regime with automatic price indexing of wages", by K. Burggraeve and Ph. Du Caju, *Research series*, March 2003.
37. "Scope of asymmetries in the euro area", by S. Ide and Ph. Moës, *Document series*, March 2003.
38. "De autonijverheid in België: Het belang van het toeleveringsnetwerk rond de assemblage van personenauto's", by F. Coppens and G. van Gastel, *Document series*, June 2003.
39. "La consommation privée en Belgique", by B. Eugène, Ph. Jeanfils and B. Robert, *Document series*, June 2003.
40. "The process of European monetary integration: A comparison of the Belgian and Italian approaches", by I. Maes and L. Quaglia, *Research series*, August 2003.
41. "Stock market valuation in the United States", by P. Bisciari, A. Durré and A. Nyssens, *Document series*, November 2003.
42. "Modeling the term structure of interest rates: Where do we stand?", by K. Maes, *Research series*, February 2004.
43. "Interbank exposures: An empirical examination of system risk in the Belgian banking system", by H. Degryse and G. Nguyen, *Research series*, March 2004.
44. "How frequently do prices change? Evidence based on the micro data underlying the Belgian CPI", by L. Aucremanne and E. Dhyne, *Research series*, April 2004.
45. "Firms' investment decisions in response to demand and price uncertainty", by C. Fuss and Ph. Vermeulen, *Research series*, April 2004.
46. "SMEs and bank lending relationships: The impact of mergers", by H. Degryse, N. Masschelein and J. Mitchell, *Research series*, May 2004.
47. "The determinants of pass-through of market conditions to bank retail interest rates in Belgium", by F. De Graeve, O. De Jonghe and R. Vander Vennet, *Research series*, May 2004.
48. "Sectoral vs. country diversification benefits and downside risk", by M. Emir, *Research series*, May 2004.
49. "How does liquidity react to stress periods in a limit order market?", by H. Beltran, A. Durré and P. Giot, *Research series*, May 2004.
50. "Financial consolidation and liquidity: Prudential regulation and/or competition policy?", by P. Van Cayseele, *Research series*, May 2004.
51. "Basel II and operational risk: Implications for risk measurement and management in the financial sector", by A. Chapelle, Y. Crama, G. Hübner and J.-P. Peters, *Research series*, May 2004.
52. "The efficiency and stability of banks and markets", by F. Allen, *Research series*, May 2004.
53. "Does financial liberalization spur growth?", by G. Bekaert, C.R. Harvey and C. Lundblad, *Research series*, May 2004.
54. "Regulating financial conglomerates", by X. Freixas, G. Lóránth, A.D. Morrison and H.S. Shin, *Research series*, May 2004.
55. "Liquidity and financial market stability", by M. O'Hara, *Research series*, May 2004.
56. "Economisch belang van de Vlaamse zeehavens: Verslag 2002", by F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, June 2004.
57. "Determinants of euro term structure of credit spreads", by A. Van Landschoot, *Research series*, July 2004.
58. "Macroeconomic and monetary policy-making at the European Commission, from the Rome Treaties to the Hague Summit", by I. Maes, *Research series*, July 2004.
59. "Liberalisation of network industries: Is electricity an exception to the rule?", by F. Coppens and D. Vivet, *Document series*, September 2004.
60. "Forecasting with a Bayesian DSGE model: An application to the euro area", by F. Smets and R. Wouters, *Research series*, September 2004.

61. "Comparing shocks and frictions in US and euro area business cycle: A Bayesian DSGE approach", by F. Smets and R. Wouters, *Research series*, October 2004.
62. "Voting on pensions: A survey", by G. de Walque, *Research series*, October 2004.
63. "Asymmetric growth and inflation developments in the acceding countries: A new assessment", by S. Ide and P. Moës, *Research series*, October 2004.
64. "Importance économique du Port Autonome de Liège: rapport 2002", by F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, November 2004.
65. "Price-setting behaviour in Belgium: What can be learned from an ad hoc survey", by L. Aucremanne and M. Druant, *Research series*, March 2005.
66. "Time-dependent versus state-dependent pricing: A panel data approach to the determinants of Belgian consumer price changes", by L. Aucremanne and E. Dhyne, *Research series*, April 2005.
67. "Indirect effects – A formal definition and degrees of dependency as an alternative to technical coefficients", by F. Coppens, *Research series*, May 2005.
68. "Noname – A new quarterly model for Belgium", by Ph. Jeanfils and K. Burggraeve, *Research series*, May 2005.
69. "Economic importance of the Flemish maritime ports: Report 2003", by F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, May 2005.
70. "Measuring inflation persistence: A structural time series approach", by M. Dossche and G. Everaert, *Research series*, June 2005.
71. "Financial intermediation theory and implications for the sources of value in structured finance markets", by J. Mitchell, *Document series*, July 2005.
72. "Liquidity risk in securities settlement", by J. Devriese and J. Mitchell, *Research series*, July 2005.
73. "An international analysis of earnings, stock prices and bond yields", by A. Durré and P. Giot, *Research series*, September 2005.
74. "Price setting in the euro area: Some stylized facts from Individual Consumer Price Data", by E. Dhyne, L. J. Álvarez, H. Le Bihan, G. Veronese, D. Dias, J. Hoffmann, N. Jonker, P. Lünemann, F. Rumler and J. Vilmunen, *Research series*, September 2005.
75. "Importance économique du Port Autonome de Liège: rapport 2003", by F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, October 2005.
76. "The pricing behaviour of firms in the euro area: New survey evidence", by S. Fabiani, M. Druant, I. Hernando, C. Kwapil, B. Landau, C. Loupias, F. Martins, T. Mathä, R. Sabbatini, H. Stahl and A. Stokman, *Research series*, November 2005.
77. "Income uncertainty and aggregate consumption", by L. Pozzi, *Research series*, November 2005.
78. "Crédits aux particuliers - Analyse des données de la Centrale des Crédits aux Particuliers", by H. De Doncker, *Document series*, January 2006.
79. "Is there a difference between solicited and unsolicited bank ratings and, if so, why?", by P. Van Roy, *Research series*, February 2006.
80. "A generalised dynamic factor model for the Belgian economy - Useful business cycle indicators and GDP growth forecasts", by Ch. Van Nieuwenhuyze, *Research series*, February 2006.
81. "Réduction linéaire de cotisations patronales à la sécurité sociale et financement alternatif", by Ph. Jeanfils, L. Van Meensel, Ph. Du Caju, Y. Saks, K. Buysse and K. Van Cauter, *Document series*, March 2006.
82. "The patterns and determinants of price setting in the Belgian industry", by D. Cornille and M. Dossche, *Research series*, May 2006.
83. "A multi-factor model for the valuation and risk management of demand deposits", by H. Dewachter, M. Lyrro and K. Maes, *Research series*, May 2006.
84. "The single European electricity market: A long road to convergence", by F. Coppens and D. Vivet, *Document series*, May 2006.
85. "Firm-specific production factors in a DSGE model with Taylor price setting", by G. de Walque, F. Smets and R. Wouters, *Research series*, June 2006.
86. "Economic importance of the Belgian ports: Flemish maritime ports and Liège port complex - Report 2004", by F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, June 2006.
87. "The response of firms' investment and financing to adverse cash flow shocks: The role of bank relationships", by C. Fuss and Ph. Vermeulen, *Research series*, July 2006.
88. "The term structure of interest rates in a DSGE model", by M. Emiris, *Research series*, July 2006.
89. "The production function approach to the Belgian output gap, estimation of a multivariate structural time series model", by Ph. Moës, *Research series*, September 2006.

90. "Industry wage differentials, unobserved ability, and rent-sharing: Evidence from matched worker-firm data, 1995-2002", by R. Plasman, F. Rycx and I. Tojerow, *Research series*, October 2006.
91. "The dynamics of trade and competition", by N. Chen, J. Imbs and A. Scott, *Research series*, October 2006.
92. "A New Keynesian model with unemployment", by O. Blanchard and J. Gali, *Research series*, October 2006.
93. "Price and wage setting in an integrating Europe: Firm level evidence", by F. Abraham, J. Konings and S. Vanormelingen, *Research series*, October 2006.
94. "Simulation, estimation and welfare implications of monetary policies in a 3-country NOEM model", by J. Plasmans, T. Michalak and J. Fornero, *Research series*, October 2006.
95. "Inflation persistence and price-setting behaviour in the euro area: A summary of the Inflation Persistence Network evidence ", by F. Altissimo, M. Ehrmann and F. Smets, *Research series*, October 2006.
96. "How wages change: Micro evidence from the International Wage Flexibility Project", by W.T. Dickens, L. Goette, E.L. Goshen, S. Holden, J. Messina, M.E. Schweitzer, J. Turunen and M. Ward, *Research series*, October 2006.
97. "Nominal wage rigidities in a new Keynesian model with frictional unemployment", by V. Bodart, G. de Walque, O. Pierrard, H.R. Sneessens and R. Wouters, *Research series*, October 2006.
98. "Dynamics on monetary policy in a fair wage model of the business cycle", by D. De la Croix, G. de Walque and R. Wouters, *Research series*, October 2006.
99. "The kinked demand curve and price rigidity: Evidence from scanner data", by M. Dossche, F. Heylen and D. Van den Poel, *Research series*, October 2006.
100. "Lumpy price adjustments: A microeconomic analysis", by E. Dhyne, C. Fuss, H. Peseran and P. Sevestre, *Research series*, October 2006.
101. "Reasons for wage rigidity in Germany", by W. Franz and F. Pfeiffer, *Research series*, October 2006.
102. "Fiscal sustainability indicators and policy design in the face of ageing", by G. Langenus, *Research series*, October 2006.
103. "Macroeconomic fluctuations and firm entry: Theory and evidence", by V. Lewis, *Research series*, October 2006.
104. "Exploring the CDS-bond basis", by J. De Wit, *Research series*, November 2006.
105. "Sector concentration in loan portfolios and economic capital", by K. Düllmann and N. Masschelein, *Research series*, November 2006.
106. "R&D in the Belgian pharmaceutical sector", by H. De Doncker, *Document series*, December 2006.
107. "Importance et évolution des investissements directs en Belgique", by Ch. Piette, *Document series*, January 2007.
108. "Investment-specific technology shocks and labor market frictions", by R. De Bock, *Research series*, February 2007.
109. "Shocks and frictions in US business cycles: A Bayesian DSGE approach", by F. Smets and R. Wouters, *Research series*, February 2007.
110. "Economic impact of port activity: A disaggregate analysis. The case of Antwerp", by F. Coppens, F. Lagneaux, H. Meersman, N. Sellekaerts, E. Van de Voorde, G. van Gastel, Th. Vanelander, A. Verhetsel, *Document series*, February 2007.
111. "Price setting in the euro area: Some stylised facts from individual producer price data", by Ph. Vermeulen, D. Dias, M. Dossche, E. Gautier, I. Hernando, R. Sabbatini, H. Stahl, *Research series*, March 2007.
112. "Assessing the gap between observed and perceived inflation in the euro area: Is the credibility of the HICP at stake?", by L. Aucremanne, M. Collin and Th. Stragier, *Research series*, April 2007.
113. "The spread of Keynesian economics: A comparison of the Belgian and Italian experiences", by I. Maes, *Research series*, April 2007.
114. "Imports and exports at the level of the firm: Evidence from Belgium", by M. Muûls and M. Pisu, *Research series*, May 2007.
115. "Economic importance of the Belgian ports: Flemish maritime ports and Liège port complex - Report 2005", by F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, May 2007.
116. "Temporal distribution of price changes: Staggering in the large and synchronization in the small", by E. Dhyne and J. Konieczny, *Research series*, June 2007.
117. "Can excess liquidity signal an asset price boom?", by A. Bruggeman, *Research series*, August 2007.
118. "The performance of credit rating systems in the assessment of collateral used in Eurosystem monetary policy operations", by F. Coppens, F. González and G. Winkler, *Research series*, September 2007.

119. "The determinants of stock and bond return comovements", by L. Baele, G. Bekaert and K. Inghelbrecht, *Research series*, October 2007.
120. "Monitoring pro-cyclicality under the capital requirements directive: Preliminary concepts for developing a framework", by N. Masschelein, *Document series*, October 2007.
121. "Dynamic order submission strategies with competition between a dealer market and a crossing network", by H. Degryse, M. Van Achter and G. Wuyts, *Research series*, November 2007.
122. "The gas chain: Influence of its specificities on the liberalisation process", by C. Swartenbroekx, *Document series*, November 2007.
123. "Failure prediction models: Performance, disagreements, and internal rating systems", by J. Mitchell and P. Van Roy, *Research series*, December 2007.
124. "Downward wage rigidity for different workers and firms: An evaluation for Belgium using the IWFP procedure", by Ph. Du Caju, C. Fuss and L. Wintr, *Research series*, December 2007.
125. "Economic importance of Belgian transport logistics", by F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, January 2008.
126. "Some evidence on late bidding in eBay auctions", by L. Wintr, *Research series*, January 2008.
127. "How do firms adjust their wage bill in Belgium? A decomposition along the intensive and extensive margins", by C. Fuss, *Research series*, January 2008.
128. "Exports and productivity – Comparable evidence for 14 countries", by The International Study Group on Exports and Productivity, *Research series*, February 2008.
129. "Estimation of monetary policy preferences in a forward-looking model: A Bayesian approach", by P. Ilbas, *Research series*, March 2008.
130. "Job creation, job destruction and firms' international trade involvement", by M. Pisu, *Research series*, March 2008.
131. "Do survey indicators let us see the business cycle? A frequency decomposition", by L. Dresse and Ch. Van Nieuwenhuyze, *Research series*, March 2008.
132. "Searching for additional sources of inflation persistence: The micro-price panel data approach", by R. Raciborski, *Research series*, April 2008.
133. "Short-term forecasting of GDP using large monthly datasets - A pseudo real-time forecast evaluation exercise", by K. Barhoumi, S. Benk, R. Cristadoro, A. Den Reijer, A. Jakaitiene, P. Jelonek, A. Rua, G. Rünstler, K. Ruth and Ch. Van Nieuwenhuyze, *Research series*, June 2008.
134. "Economic importance of the Belgian ports: Flemish maritime ports, Liège port complex and the port of Brussels - Report 2006", by S. Vennix, *Document series*, June 2008.
135. "Imperfect exchange rate pass-through: The role of distribution services and variable demand elasticity", by Ph. Jeanfils, *Research series*, August 2008.
136. "Multivariate structural time series models with dual cycles: Implications for measurement of output gap and potential growth", by Ph. Moës, *Research series*, August 2008.
137. "Agency problems in structured finance - A case study of European CLOs", by J. Keller, *Document series*, August 2008.
138. "The efficiency frontier as a method for gauging the performance of public expenditure: A Belgian case study", by B. Eugène, *Research series*, September 2008.
139. "Exporters and credit constraints. A firm-level approach", by M. Muûls, *Research series*, September 2008.
140. "Export destinations and learning-by-exporting: Evidence from Belgium", by M. Pisu, *Research series*, September 2008.
141. "Monetary aggregates and liquidity in a neo-Wicksellian framework", by M. Canzoneri, R. Cumby, B. Diba and D. López-Salido, *Research series*, October 2008.
142. "Liquidity, inflation and asset prices in a time-varying framework for the euro area", by Ch. Baumeister, E. Durinck and G. Peersman, *Research series*, October 2008.
143. "The bond premium in a DSGE model with long-run real and nominal risks", by G. D. Rudebusch and E. T. Swanson, *Research series*, October 2008.
144. "Imperfect information, macroeconomic dynamics and the yield curve: An encompassing macro-finance model", by H. Dewachter, *Research series*, October 2008.
145. "Housing market spillovers: Evidence from an estimated DSGE model", by M. Iacoviello and S. Neri, *Research series*, October 2008.
146. "Credit frictions and optimal monetary policy", by V. Cúrdia and M. Woodford, *Research series*, October 2008.
147. "Central Bank misperceptions and the role of money in interest rate rules", by G. Beck and V. Wieland, *Research series*, October 2008.

148. "Financial (in)stability, supervision and liquidity injections: A dynamic general equilibrium approach", by G. de Walque, O. Pierrard and A. Rouabah, *Research series*, October 2008.
149. "Monetary policy, asset prices and macroeconomic conditions: A panel-VAR study", by K. Assenmacher-Wesche and S. Gerlach, *Research series*, October 2008.
150. "Risk premiums and macroeconomic dynamics in a heterogeneous agent model", by F. De Graeve, M. Dossche, M. Emiris, H. Sneessens and R. Wouters, *Research series*, October 2008.
151. "Financial factors in economic fluctuations", by L. J. Christiano, R. Motto and M. Rotagno, *Research series*, to be published.
152. "Rent-sharing under different bargaining regimes: Evidence from linked employer-employee data", by M. Rusinek and F. Rycx, *Research series*, December 2008.
153. "Forecast with judgment and models", by F. Monti, *Research series*, December 2008.
154. "Institutional features of wage bargaining in 23 European countries, the US and Japan", by Ph. Du Caju, E. Gautier, D. Momferatou and M. Ward-Warmedinger, *Research series*, December 2008.
155. "Fiscal sustainability and policy implications for the euro area", by F. Balassone, J. Cunha, G. Langenus, B. Manzke, J. Pavot, D. Prammer and P. Tommasino, *Research series*, January 2009.
156. "Understanding sectoral differences in downward real wage rigidity: Workforce composition, institutions, technology and competition", by Ph. Du Caju, C. Fuss and L. Wintr, *Research series*, February 2009.
157. "Sequential bargaining in a New Keynesian model with frictional unemployment and staggered wage negotiation", by G. de Walque, O. Pierrard, H. Sneessens and R. Wouters, *Research series*, February 2009.
158. "Economic importance of air transport and airport activities in Belgium", by F. Kupfer and F. Lagneaux, *Document series*, March 2009.
159. "Rigid labour compensation and flexible employment? Firm-Level evidence with regard to productivity for Belgium", by C. Fuss and L. Wintr, *Research series*, March 2009.
160. "The Belgian iron and steel industry in the international context", by F. Lagneaux and D. Vivet, *Document series*, March 2009.
161. "Trade, wages and productivity", by K. Behrens, G. Mion, Y. Murata and J. Südekum, *Research series*, March 2009.
162. "Labour flows in Belgium", by P. Heuse and Y. Saks, *Research series*, April 2009.
163. "The young Lamfalussy: An empirical and policy-oriented growth theorist", by I. Maes, *Research series*, April 2009.
164. "Inflation dynamics with labour market matching: Assessing alternative specifications", by K. Christoffel, J. Costain, G. de Walque, K. Kuester, T. Linzert, S. Millard and O. Pierrard, *Research series*, May 2009.
165. "Understanding inflation dynamics: Where do we stand?", by M. Dossche, *Research series*, June 2009.
166. "Input-output connections between sectors and optimal monetary policy", by E. Kara, *Research series*, June 2009.
167. "Back to the basics in banking? A micro-analysis of banking system stability", by O. De Jonghe, *Research series*, June 2009.
168. "Model misspecification, learning and the exchange rate disconnect puzzle", by V. Lewis and A. Markiewicz, *Research series*, July 2009.
169. "The use of fixed-term contracts and the labour adjustment in Belgium", by E. Dhyne and B. Mahy, *Research series*, July 2009.
170. "Analysis of business demography using markov chains – An application to Belgian data", by F. Coppens and F. Verduyn, *Research series*, July 2009.
171. "A global assessment of the degree of price stickiness - Results from the NBB business survey", by E. Dhyne, *Research series*, July 2009.
172. "Economic importance of the Belgian ports: Flemish maritime ports, Liège port complex and the port of Brussels - Report 2007", by C. Mathys, *Document series*, July 2009.
173. "Evaluating a monetary business cycle model with unemployment for the euro area", by N. Groshenny, *Research series*, July 2009.
174. "How are firms' wages and prices linked: Survey evidence in Europe", by M. Druant, S. Fabiani and G. Kezdi, A. Lamo, F. Martins and R. Sabbatini, *Research series*, August 2009.
175. "Micro-data on nominal rigidity, inflation persistence and optimal monetary policy", by E. Kara, *Research series*, September 2009.
176. "On the origins of the BIS macro-prudential approach to financial stability: Alexandre Lamfalussy and financial fragility", by I. Maes, *Research series*, October 2009.



177. "Incentives and tranche retention in securitisation: A screening model", by I. Fender and J. Mitchell, *Research series*, October 2009.
178. "Optimal monetary policy and firm entry", by V. Lewis, *Research series*, October 2009.
179. "Staying, dropping, or switching: The impacts of bank mergers on small firms", by H. Degryse, N. Masschelein and J. Mitchell, *Research series*, October 2009.
180. "Inter-industry wage differentials: How much does rent sharing matter?", by Ph. Du Caju, F. Rycx and I. Tojerow, *Research series*, October 2009.
181. "Empirical evidence on the aggregate effects of anticipated and unanticipated US tax policy shocks", by K. Mertens and M. O. Ravn, *Research series*, November 2009.
182. "Downward nominal and real wage rigidity: Survey evidence from European firms", by J. Babecký, Ph. Du Caju, T. Kosma, M. Lawless, J. Messina and T. Rõõm, *Research series*, November 2009.
183. "The margins of labour cost adjustment: Survey evidence from European firms", by J. Babecký, Ph. Du Caju, T. Kosma, M. Lawless, J. Messina and T. Rõõm, *Research series*, November 2009.
184. "Discriminatory fees, coordination and investment in shared ATM networks" by S. Ferrari, *Research series*, January 2010.
185. "Self-fulfilling liquidity dry-ups" by F. Malherbe, *Research series*, March 2010.
186. "The development of monetary policy in the 20th century - some reflections", by O. Issing, *Research series*, April 2010.
187. "Getting rid of Keynes? A survey of the history of macroeconomics from Keynes to Lucas and beyond", by M. De Vroey, *Research series*, April 2010.
188. "A century of macroeconomic and monetary thought at the National Bank of Belgium", by I. Maes, *Research series*, April 2010.
189. "Inter-industry wage differentials in EU countries: What do cross-country time-varying data add to the picture?", by Ph. Du Caju, G. Kátay, A. Lamo, D. Nicolitsas and S. Poelhekke, *Research series*, April 2010.

National Bank of Belgium  
Limited liability company  
RLP Brussels – Company's number: 0203.201.340  
Registered office : boulevard de Berlaimont 14 – BE-1000 Brussels  
[www.nbb.be](http://www.nbb.be)

Editor

**Jan Smets**

Member of the board of Directors of the National Bank of Belgium

© Illustrations : gettyimages – PhotoDisc  
National Bank of Belgium

Layout : NBB Microeconomic Analysis  
Cover : NBB TS – Prepress & Image

Published in April 2010