



# **Unemployment in Transition Economies: Developments, Challenges and Lessons from the EU and the US**

Barcelona, 26-28 October, 2001

Sponsored by Centre de Recerca en Economia Internacional (CREI), and European  
Commission Phare-Ace Programme

Venue: UPF, Roger de Lluria Building, room 40.006

## **Program**

### **Friday 26**

#### **10:00 ACE Meeting (room 20.133)**

Daniel Munich (Charles University, CERGE, Czech Rep), Jan Svejnar (William Davidson Institute, University of Michigan), Stepan Juradja (Economics Institute, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic), Martina Lubyova (Slovak Academy of Sciences), Boguslavas Gruzevskis (Institute of Labour and Social Research, Lithuania), Maia Güell (UPF), Henrik Huitfeldt (University of Uppsala, Sweden).

13:30 ACE Meeting Lunch

15:30 **Welcome**

**Session 1 Chair: Adriana Kugler (UPF)**

16:00 **From Reunification to Regional Integration: Productivity and the  
Labor Market in East Germany**

\*Michael Burda (Humboldt-University of Berlin)  
Jennifer Hunt (Yale University)

Discussant: Daniel Munich (CERGE-EI)

17:00 **A Dynamic General Equilibrium Model of Temporary Contracts**  
\*César Alonso (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)  
\*J.E. Galdón (UPNA)  
Jesús Fernández-Villaverde (University of Pennsylvania)

Discussant: Pedro Mira (CEMFI)

18:00 Coffee break

18:30 **Cross-Country Comparisons of Wage Rates: The Big Mac Index**  
\*Orley Ashenfelter (Princeton University)  
\*Stepan Jurajda (CERGE-EI)

Discussant: Ed Lazear (Stanford University)

21:00 Dinner

### **Saturday 27**

#### **Session 2 Chair: Ernesto Villanueva (UPF)**

10:00 **On the Speed of Reallocation in Transition: Micro Evidence from the Czech Republic and Estonia**  
\*Stepan Jurajda (CERGE-EI)  
Katherine Terrell ((William Davidson Institute, University of Michigan)

Discussant: Michael Burda (Humboldt-University of Berlin)

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 **Distribution and Growth in an Economy with Limited Needs**  
\*Gilles Saint-Paul (University of Toulouse I)

Discussant: Samuel Bentolila (CEMFI)

12:30 **The Returns to Job Mobility during the Transition: Evidence from Czech Restrospective Data**  
\*Daniel Munich (CERGE-EI)  
\*Jan Svejnar (William Davidson Institute, University of Michigan)  
Katherine Terrell ((William Davidson Institute, University of Michigan)

Discussant: Manuel Arellano (CEMFI)

13:30 Lunch

**Session 3 Chair: Ignacio García (centRA)**

15:00 **Dismissals, Employment Protection Regulations and Temporary Work: Beyond the Cross-country Comparisons**

\*Tito Boeri (Bocconi University)

\*Juan F. Jimeno (FEDEA)

Discussant: Alison Booth (University of Essex)

16:00 **Let's Go to Court! Firing Costs and Dismissal Conflicts**

\*J.E.Galdón (UPNA)

\*Maia Güell (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)

Discussant: Hank Farber (Princeton University)

17:00 Coffee break

17:30 **Rise in Disability Recipiency and the Decline in Unemployment**

\*David Autor (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Mark Duggan (University of Chicago)

Discussant: Juan F. Jimeno (FEDEA)

21:00 Dinner

**Sunday 28**

**Session 4 Chair: Jaume Garcia (UPF)**

10:00 **The interplay between insurance and assistance in unemployment compensation systems**

\*Javier Ortega (University of Toulouse I)

Laurence Rioux, CERC and CREST (Paris).

Discussant: J.E.Galdón (UPNA)

11:00 Coffee break

11:30      **Disentangling the minimum wage puzzle: an analysis of job accessions and separations from a longitudinal matched employer-employee data set**

\* Pedro Portugal (Bank of Portugal and Universidade Nova de Lisboa)  
Ana Rute Cardoso (Universidade do Minho, NIMA, Portugal)

Discussant: Alan Manning (London School of Economics)

12:30      **Counseling and monitoring of unemployed workers: theory and evidence from a controlled social experiment**

\* Gerard van den Berg (Free University Amsterdam)  
Bas van der Klaauw (Free University Amsterdam)

Discussant: LuoJia Hu (Northwestern University)

13:30      Lunch

(\*) conference participant

Rapporteur: Dorte Domeland-Narvaez (UPF) and Alex Mas (Princeton University).

Organizers: J.E. Galdón (Universidad Pública de Navarra)  
Maia Güell (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)  
Gilles Saint-Paul (University of Toulouse I)