

ETUI-R expert meeting 6th-March 2006. Brussels



'Relocation' of production and services and its impact on employment in the European context

Venue: ITUH building, floor 1, room E Boulevard du Roi Albert II. 5. (close to Rogier)

Relocation of production and services from Western to the Eastern Europe is in the centre of current debates. In the current ETUI – SALTSA¹ project, we would like to identify the phenomenon, as it appears on the European scene in a systematic overview, evaluating current processes with an emphasis on their impact on employment. Our methodology would make use of the results of previous projects, and also explore statistical surveys based on macroeconomic data (trade, FDI, employment figures) and data bases on multinational firms and foreign-investment enterprises (FIE). We would gather sector specific information and conduct a limited number of company related case studies (characteristic examples).

Aim of the meeting: To have an open discussion with experts working in the field exchanging experiences based on previous research and identify proper methodological tools for this project. Co-ordination between parallel running projects and the involvement of external experts into our project in a number of specific issues as external collaborators, is also on the agenda. In a broader sense, we would also like to establish a network for the future, where we regularly exchange information. Running period of the first phase of the project: 2006 March – 2007 June.

As a first exchange, we would welcome any existing related study, discussion paper that could inspire the debate.

Program:

10.00h

Welcome by Reiner Hoffmann (deputy general secretary, ETUC) Brief introductory round with mentioning running activities and project background

11.00h

How to identify the phenomenon of 'relocation': foreign direct investment and its various patterns, trade of intermediary products, substitution effect – how to measure 'relocation' in a macroeconomic approach (theoretical considerations, classification)

Input: Béla Galgoczi (ETUI), Gábor Hunya (WIIW, Vienna), Julio Raffo

(Ifri, Paris) Discussion

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¹ The National Institute for Working Life and the Swedish Trade Unions in Cooperation

12.30 lunch at the cafeteria

13.30h Supply chain management by multinationals demonstrated in case of

the automobile industry and ICT manufacturing (two different patterns) Input: Antje Bloecker (WZB, Berlin), Mireille Battut (Alpha Group,

Paris)

Outsourcing/offshoring of ICT related services Input by Sabrina Di Marchi (Uni-Europa)

Discussion

15.00h coffee break

15.15h Employment impact of 'relocation' – what evidence, how to measure it,

both in quantitative (loss or gains of employment) and in quantitative terms (structure of labour markets, skill levels, etc.). What methodology used in previous projects and how to address the

problem? (two inputs)

discussion

16.30h Conclusions, how to proceed

17.30h end of the seminar

19.00h Joint dinner

Registered participants:

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