

List of Projects

Isilda Mara

Provision of services related to the implementation of the Better Regulation Guidelines (Framework Contract)

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

September 2017 - September 2019

This framework contract is supposed to assist the European Commission in implementing the Better Regulation Guidelines by carrying out studies in the field of employment, social affairs, labour mobility and skills with the purpose of supporting: (1) impact assessment for the design and preparation of policies, programmes and legislation; (2) evaluation to assess their effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and the added value, and (3) monitoring their implementation.

Integration of recent refugees and third country nationals into the Austrian labour market

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

October 2016 - June 2019

The aim of this project is to investigate the opportunities and challenges of integrating refugees and third country nationals (TCNs) in the Austrian labour market. A particular focus of the analysis is to follow the dynamics of labour market integration, building on a variety of longitudinal databases, including our own survey covering recent refugees/asylum seekers and third country migrants in Austria. The aim is to follow the experiences of different groups of refugees and TCN migrants coming from different countries of origin with their specific personal characteristics, social contexts and participations in various policy programmes. Various statistical methods will be applied to analyse the heterogeneity of experiences and effectiveness of policy programmes. Research will also include interaction with focus groups and stakeholders, as well as macro-economic analysis of integration experiences of TCN migrants across all 28 EU countries.

Migration and Globalisation - Impacts and Interaction

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

March 2016 - March 2018

This project contributes to the current debate on the effects of immigration by considering how migration impacts upon and interacts with other forces of globalisation. The project will largely focus on the EU-27 countries, examining the impact of intra-EU and extra-EU migration flows on trade, FDI and off-shoring. The project will focus on four major issues, namely: (i) the impact of immigration on (North-South) FDI flows; (ii) the relationship between migration and services trade flows; (iii) the interactions between migration, trade and FDI flows; (iv) migration and offshoring and their impact upon labour markets and inequality in EU economies.

Falling Behind and Catching Up in Southeast Europe (GDN)

Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance

January 2014 - May 2017

Southeast Europe holds a long record of being one of Europe's least developed regions. Sporadic growth spurts are regularly followed by strong fall-backs. Neither firms, nor banks or states were able to make broad industrialization happen in a sustainable way. The proposed research analysed the determinants and effects of backwardness in Southeast Europe. The analysis included inter alia issues of long-run development, industrialization, infrastructure, the role of cities, migration, state building and financial crisis. The results yielded important policy recommendations.

Framework contract on services related to the coordination and provision of horizontal support to the EURES network.

*European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
September 2014 - August 2016*

The European Job Network EURES (European Employment Services) will be reformed in the coming years in order to bring it up to speed with the challenges posed by the current and future labour market situation. EURES will become a demand-driven and result-oriented recruitment tool satisfying economic needs and contributing to fulfil the employment objective of the Europe 2020 strategy. The overall aim of the network support activities is to provide assistance to EURES members and partners in initiating, developing and implementing intra-EU labour mobility actions and plans, to improve cooperation and mutual learning in connection with the objectives of the EURES reform and to reinforce the role of EURES as part of such mobility actions and strategies.

Global Development Network Southeast Europe (GDN_SEE)

*Oesterreichische Nationalbank/Austrian Ministry of Finance
February 2009 - July 2016*

wiiw acts as regional hub for SEE within the Global Development Network (GDN) in providing capacity building for research and policy advice in the areas of labour markets, migration, trade, etc. wiiw initiated several research competitions in the region and also performs own research in this context. The topics of the most recent project phase were labour market developments, inequality, migration and fiscal systems in SEE.

<http://balkan-observatory.net>

Mapping Labour Market Integration Support Measures for Refugees and Asylum-seekers in the EU

*European University Institute (EUI)
December 2015 - April 2016*

The overall objective of the study is to identify the policies and practices being implemented in different EU Member States to facilitate the labour market integration of recent refugees and asylum-seekers (i.e., those having arrived to the country in the last year) and to analyze them with a comparative perspective. wiiw contributes a country case study to this project.

Free Movement of workers, transitional arrangements and potential mobility from Croatia

*European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
December 2014 - May 2015*

Croatia joined the European Union on 1 July 2013. Similar to the two previous rounds of enlargement (2004 and 2007) the Accession Treaty with Croatia permits transitional arrangements regarding labour mobility. These arrangements allow other Member States to impose restricted access of Croatian nationals to their labour markets for a maximum period of seven years (2+3+2 formula). The first stage of transitional arrangements started in July 2013 and ended on 30 June 2015. As required by the ToR, the study provided information on past and, particularly, current migration/mobility patterns of Croatian nationals across EU Member States as well as on potential mobility/mobility intentions from Croatia to other EU Member States. In addition, it identified push factors of mobility and estimate econometrically the potential mobility patterns of Croatian nationals across other EU Member States. Finally, the study provided a short inventory of national data sources – both from Croatia and other Member States – that will help to monitor and assess the mobility of Croatian citizens since the country's accession to the EU in July 2013.

Recent patterns of labour mobility in the European Union

*Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank
July 2013 - March 2015*

In the EU the level of labour mobility is comparably low, but rising due to intensified labour market flexibility and increasing migration flows. The project analysed changing patterns of labour mobility in a detailed manner in the countries, regions and economic sectors of the EU by applying a descriptive and an econometric approach. A specific focus was put on whether international migrants respond more flexibly to labour market demands. Moreover, the effects of external shocks during the financial and economic crisis on the scale and structure of labour mobility was analysed. The project drew on two micro-datasets: the EU labour force survey for performing a worker flow analysis and the MICRO-DYN database, which provides data based on EU-wide firm-level data to perform a job flow analysis. In the econometric approach we applied regional, country, sectoral and workers

characteristics to detect the reasons for differences in the European wide map of labour mobility.

Growth-Innovation-Competitiveness: fostering cohesion in Central and East Europe (GRINCOH)

European Commission, 7th Framework Programme

April 2012 - March 2015

GRINCOH was an FP7 research project with the main objectives: (1) to establish development scenarios for the CEECs for the period up to 2020; (2) to identify the implications for sustainable growth - based on innovation and the development of technological capabilities - and greater economic, social and territorial cohesion in the CEECs; and (3) to advise on future policy options for the CEECs, and in particular for EU cohesion policy. wiiw led a work package on economic development patterns and structural change in the process of transition and EU membership. Furthermore, wiiw contributed research on labour market development, migration, inequality, trade integration, foreign direct investment, EU budget as well as regional aspects.

<http://www.grincoh.eu>

Strategic Study on Labour Mobility in the Context of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy

Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

April 2014 - January 2015

The purpose of this consultancy was to provide strategic input to the labour mobility consultation process initiated by the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) in partnership with IOM and other regional and international partners as a flagship initiative on Jobs, Skills and Employment. The study is about to contribute to the implementation of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy. wiiw was engaged to assist the RCC and IOM in producing a comprehensive report on labour mobility in SEE.

European Job Mobility Laboratory

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

January 2010 - January 2014

The objective of the laboratory was to help the Commission in promoting mobility as an overarching instrument in support of the 'flexicurity' model. This was achieved in two ways: On the one hand, the laboratory added to the analytical capacity of the Commission and provide a means through which policy ideas can be challenged by a combination of academics and practitioners in order to find out what will work and what will not. On the other hand, the laboratory raised awareness of mobility issues and promoted debate through a series of seminars, workshops and high profile reports. Ultimately, the outputs of the projects contributed towards the development of new policy guidelines by providing feedback (on existing policy) resulting both from analytical work and directly from policy implementers. wiiw was subcontractor in the project, which was led by Applica.

<http://www.mobilitypartnership.eu/WebApp/Home.aspx>

Impact of opening full labour market access to Bulgarian and Romanian nationals as of 1 January 2014: the case of Austria (wiiw Team Leader)

Austrian Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth

April 2013 - December 2013

The study analyses the migration potential and the impact on Austria's economy that is to be expected after the lifting of access restrictions for Bulgarian and Romanian nationals as of 1 January 2014. Estimates show that - as compared with a scenario with retained restrictions - in the years 2014 and 2015 net migration from the two countries to Austria will account for 5700 and 5300 additional persons, respectively, solely due to the full liberalisation of the labour market. About three quarters of those migrants are expected to come from Romania. In the years following the opening of the labour market, employment will be by about 6700 persons higher than it would be without liberalisation in 2014 and by about 10,300 persons above that level in 2015. The employment effect results not only from the higher population flows but also from the activation of a part of those Bulgarian and Romanian migrants who have been resident in Austria already before the liberalisation - also in 2007-2013 an increased inflow of migrants from those two countries was observed. The additional labour force supply will only cause a temporary marginal increase in the overall unemployment rate. Gross domestic product in 2014 and 2015 is expected to be higher by about 0.09% and 0.13%, respectively, and the unemployment rate is estimated to be higher by about 0.03% in both years, than would be the case without labour market liberalisation. The study was written in German, original title: 'Auswirkungen der Arbeitsmarkttöffnung am 1. Jänner 2014 auf den Wirtschafts- und Arbeitsstandort Österreich'

Temporary migration, integration and the role of policies (TEMPO)

New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe (NORFACE)

November 2009 - November 2013

The main goal of TEMPO is to extend the frontier of knowledge on temporary and return migration along several directions. First of all, using an array of existing and new datasets, it looks at the causes and consequences of temporary migration, considering both the perspective of the source and the destination country. Second, it studies the patterns of integration of economic and non-economic migrants, and how they relate to the time dimension of the migration decision. Particular attention is paid to the role played by the diffusion of information within immigrant networks. Finally, the project looks at the process through which policies towards temporary and return migration are formed, and analyses their welfare effects both on the destination and the source countries. wiiw is one of 12 partners on the TEMPO research project, which is funded under the Norface Migration Research Programme.

<http://www.norface.org/migration6.html>

Support to the Development of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy

Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

June 2013 - September 2013

The Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat was requested by the countries of the Southeast Europe Cooperation Process (SEEC) as well as the European Commission (EC) to advance the preparation of a regional development and growth strategy - SEE 2020. In course of this process, eleven specific targets have been identified that span convergence with EU, trade, investment, employment, education and governance. All in all, the SEE 2020 encompasses 14 policy dimensions. In the framework of this consultancy assignment, wiiw coordinated a group of experts who compiled and synthesized the various inputs from regional initiatives, platforms and other relevant stakeholders into the Strategy document. Last but not least, wiiw experts ensured the internal consistency of the proposed targets and measures and provided contextual analysis and advice. In November 2013, the SEE 2020 strategy was finally approved by the Ministerial Conference of the South East Europe Investment Committee.

Migration patterns of Serbian immigrants in Austria: causes and consequences

Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank

January 2011 - April 2013

The main objective of this project is to investigate empirical evidence of migration behaviour of migrants from former Yugoslavia, especially from Serbia, after the introduction of the new visa regime starting with 2010. The focus is on the analysis of the phenomenon of temporary migration and its impact on integration and the building of human capital on the labour market.

The European neighbourhood - challenges and opportunities for EU competitiveness (Competitiveness Report 2012)

European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry

November 2011 - May 2012

This study serves as a background report for the yearly Competitiveness Report of the EC. In order to assess the differences between neighbouring countries with respect to their importance for EU competitiveness, the study first maps the economic situation and competitiveness of each of the Eastern and Southern ENP partner countries, non-candidate EFTA countries, potential candidate countries as well as Russia. The study describes and analysed the economic importance of institutional arrangements and instruments for cooperation between the EU and the above countries. It also explores the economic and trade impact of bilateral agreements and related trade and investment flows including energy, raw materials and other resources between EU Member States. The final part of the study contains a discussion of the challenges and opportunities for EU competitiveness resulting from its different economic relations, institutional arrangements and instruments with its immediate neighbours, as well as the bilateral relations between EU member states and neighbouring countries. The prospects for EU SMEs to expand their activities into neighbouring countries are discussed and conclusions drawn on the basis thereof. The study concludes with policy recommendations stemming from the discussion of challenges and opportunities. wiiw coordinated the study.

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/industrial-competitiveness/competitiveness-analysis/european-competitiveness-report/index_en.htm