This annual report provides a comprehensive overview of the research output and activities of the Institute for Economic and Social Research (IRES) for the academic year 2016-17, starting on September 15, 2016 and ending on September 15, 2017. IRES is a research center of the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL). The center was founded in 1928. With the Center for Operations Research and Econometrics (CORE) and the Institut de Statistique (ISBA), IRES belongs to the Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Quantitative Modeling and Analysis (IMMAQ). Within IMMAQ, IRES has its own research policy, affiliated researchers and administrative staff. This report provides information about research activities within IRES only.

IRES is promoting interaction between fundamental research, applied research and policy recommendations in economics. Our 18 faculty members, 7 senior researchers, and 33 young researchers publish articles in leading international journals and have solid experience in advising policy makers and international institutions on varied issues related to the labor market, economic forecasts, macroeconomic policies, growth and development, migration policies, trade policies etc.

The academic output of IRES during the academic year 2016-17 can be summarized as follows:

- IRES members published 3 books and 23 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Some 13 additional papers are forthcoming. They also produced 10 book chapters, 14 articles in non-refereed journals or interviews. 28 papers were also published in the IRES Discussion Paper series.

- As for citation records of our faculty members, the Scopus database reveals that 42 papers written by IRES faculty members have been cited more than 25 times in published journal articles. Google Scholar indicates that 95 papers have been cited more than 50 times in journal articles and working papers. Over the last 12 months, IRES members’ publications gave rise to 35 abstract views and 13 file downloads per day, according to RePEc records.

- IRES members gave 150 presentations in seminars, workshops or conferences.

- IRES members organized 12 conferences during 2016-17.

- Many research seminars were organized in our institutions, involving many external speakers from internationally renowned research centers and universities (the UCLouvain Economics Seminars, the Macroeconomics Lunch Seminars).

- Some 50 Research Associates from foreign universities regularly collaborate with IRES staff members. Our academic staff is involved in international and specialized research networks.
• IRES houses a large number of PhD students. During the period covered by this report, our faculty members supervised 33 doctoral students and 3 of these defended their dissertation.

IRES also undertakes work that is of direct relevance for policy and decision makers outside the university, and promotes exchanges with extramural scholars.

• Every quarter, the Service d’Analyse Economique produces a detailed analysis of short-term economic prospects in Belgium, complemented by forecasts of the Belgian economy.

• Through our series Regards Economiques, IRES members are more and more involved in the socio-economic debate and contribute more directly to the understanding of socio-economic issues. Nine issues and two focus of Regards Economiques were published in 2016-17.

• Our members are also involved in research used to advise institutions such as the Belgian government, the Belgian Federal Department of Science Policy, the Region of Brussels etc.

The five chapters of this report provide a detailed description of the composition of IRES and its research activities. More details on our events and publications can be obtained by visiting our website.

I am grateful to Anne Davister, Sébastien Schillings and Claudine Stage for their contributions to this report. Special thanks to Séverine Dinjar for coordinating the collection of information and for her contribution to the writing of this edition.
IRES staff

This chapter lists the names, functions and fields of expertise of our faculty members, administrative staff, experienced researchers, early-stage researchers and extramural research associates.

I. Faculty member
II. Administrative staff
III. Experienced researchers
IV. Early-stage researchers
V. Research associates
I. Faculty members

In 2016-2017, IRES had 18 faculty members

- **Vincent BODART, Professor of Economics**, is specialized in the analysis of economic conjuncture, macroeconomic forecasts, business cycles and international monetary economics. He is the Director of the “Service d’Analyse Economique” of IRES since 1997. He is member of the editorial board of *Reflets et perspectives de la vie économique*, editor and member of the editorial board of * Regards économiques*, and Director of the IRES Quarterly Review *Analyses économiques et prévisions*. Vincent is President of IRES since 2011 and acted as President of IMMAQ between 2012 and 2014. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the University of Namur in 1994.

- **Isabelle CASSIERS, Professor of Economics and Research Associate at the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS)**, is specialized in ecological and social transition, redefining prosperity, alternative indicators to the GDP (prosperity, well-being, sustainable development), contemporary economic and social history (Belgium in international comparison) and regulation theory. In 2011, she was awarded the Wernaers prize for Scientific research and knowledge diffusion, and elected member of the “Académie royale de Belgique, Classe Technologie et sociéité”. Since 2014, she is in the board of the “Veblen Institute for Economics Reforms” (Paris) and member of the “Club of Rome, EU-Chapter”. At UCL, she is also affiliated with IACCHOS and CIRTES and a founding member of “Louvain Partnership Research on Ecological and Social Transition”. She obtained her PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1986.

- **Muriel DEJEMEPPE, Professor of Economics**, is specialized in microeconometrics, labor economics and the evaluation of labor market policies. She is co-editor of * Regards Economiques*. She is also a Board member of the “Société royale d’Economie Politique de Belgique”. She obtained her PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 2002.

- **David DE LA CROIX, Professor of Economics**, is specialized in demographic economics, economic growth, and development economics. He is member of the editorial board of *Fiscal Studies*, *Cliometrica*, and associate editor of *Journal of development Economics*. Since 2013, he has been Editor in chief of *Journal of Demographic Economics*. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1992. He is member of the “International Panel on Social Progress” (IPSP).

- **Philippe DE VILLE, Emeritus Professor of Economics**, is also invited professor at UCL. He is specialized in macroeconomics, economic development and social justice. He obtained his PhD in Economics from Stanford University in 1973.

- **Michel DE VROEY, Emeritus Professor of Economics**, is specialized in history of macroeconomics from Keynes up to the present. He was the managing editor of * Louvain Economic Review/Recherches Economiques de Louvain*. He is member of the editorial board of *European Journal of the History of Economic Thought*. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1973.

- **Frédéric DOCQUIER, Professor of Economics and Research Associate at the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS)**, is specialized in growth and development economics, international migration and population economics. He is member of the editorial board of *Journal of Demographic Economics*, *World Bank Economic Review* and * Regards économiques*. He acted as Research Director of IRES from 2008 until September 2012. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université d’Aix-Marseille II in 1995.
• **Fabio MARIANI**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in economic growth, family economics and international migrations. He is the Director of the Research Master in Economics. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 2005.

• **Florian MAYNERIS**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in international trade, economic geography and urban economics. He is associate editor of the *Journal of Regional Science*. He is also affiliated with CORE. He obtained his PhD in Economics from EHESS-Paris in 2009. In August 2010, he obtained the Young Economist Award at the European Economic Association congress, and in December 2010, he was awarded the Louis Forest Prize for the best PhD dissertation by the Chancellerie des Universités de Paris.

• **Marthe NYSSENS**, *Professor of Economics*, studies the socio-economic logics of not-for-profit organizations (associations, cooperatives, and social enterprises). Her recent work focuses on the emergence of different social enterprise models in an international comparative perspective as well as the role of social enterprise in the field of work integration and care. She is the president of the “Emes European Research Network”. In 2015, she was elected member of the “Académie royale de Belgique, Classe Technologie et société”. She is member of the editorial board of *Voluntary Sector Review*, *Social Enterprise Journal*, *Journal for Social Entrepreneurship*. She is also affiliated with CIRTES. She obtained her PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1994.

• **Rigas OIKONOMOU**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in quantitative macroeconomics, labor markets, fiscal policy and debt management. He obtained his PhD in Economics from London School of Economics in 2010.

• **William PARIENTE**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in development economics (microfinance, entrepreneurship, health), labor economics, policy evaluation and field experiments. He is also affiliated with JPAL (Jameel Poverty Action Lab) at the Paris School of Economics. William is the IRES Research Director since September 2012. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the University of Paris 1 in 2007.

• **Luca PENSIEROSO**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in macroeconomics, history of economic thought, economic history. He is in charge of the organization of the “Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar” at IRES. He coordinates the undergraduate program in Business and Economics. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 2007.

• **Henri SNEESSENS**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in macroeconomics, labor economics, monetary economics, and quantitative methods. He is member of the editorial board of *Economie et Prévision*. He acted as IRES President in 1994-1998 and 2004-2007. Henri is also Senior Professor at the Université du Luxembourg where he headed the Center for Research in Economic and Management (CREA) from 2010 to 2014. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1980.

• **Vincent VANDENBERGHE**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in economics of education, labor economics and in the analysis of firm. His current research interests include the supply and demand-side barriers to elderly employment, the effect of age, gender and education on firm-level productivity, or their impact on TFP growth. Since 2015 he is member of the scientific board of “Louvain4 Ageing” at the Université catholique de Louvain. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1996.
II. Administrative staff

The IRES administrative staff is made of:

• **Sévérine DINJAR**, Administrative director.
• **Anne DAVISTER**, Publications and logistics.
• **Sébastien FONTENAY**, Head of logistics.
• **Cécile MODAVE**, Data manager.
• **Claudine STAGE**, Finance, mobility and promotion of research activities.
• **Sébastien SCHILLINGS**, Library, communication, editorial office of *Journal of Demographic Economics*. 

**Bruno VAN DER LINDEN**, *Professor of Economics and Research Associate at the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS)*, is specialized in labor and public economics, the analysis of optimal labor taxation and evaluation of labor market policies and institutions. He is IZA fellow and CESifo Research Network Fellow. He acted as President of IRES in 2001-2004 and 2008-2011. He obtained his PhD in Applied Sciences from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1987 and a MA in Economics from the same university in 1989.

**Gonzague VANNOORENBERGHE**, *Professor of Economics*, is specialized in international trade and international macroeconomics. He is in charge of the organization of the “Christmas Meeting of Belgian Economists” (with Michèle Belot from the University of Edinburgh) since 2016. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the University of Mannheim in 2009. In 2014, he received the prize for the best bachelor teacher of the Faculty of Economics and Business at Tilburg University.

**Daniel WEISERBS**, *Emeritus Professor of Economics*, is specialized in macroeconomics and econometrics.
III. Experienced researchers

In 2016-2017, IRES had 7 experienced researchers:

- **Emeline BEZIN, Post-doc researcher (FNRS),** is specialized in the economics of social interactions and cultural transmission with an emphasis on environmental issues and urban inequalities. She obtained her PhD from Université Catholique de Louvain and INRA (Rennes) in 2015.

- **Bastien CHABE-FERRET, Post-doc researcher (FNRS),** is specialized in demographic economics, economic history, applied economics and cultural economics. He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 2013.

- **Paula GOBBI, Post-doc researcher (FNRS),** is specialized in demographic economics, macroeconomics, development and growth. She obtained her PhD in Economics from Université catholique de Louvain in 2013.

- **Marion MERCIER, Post-doc researcher,** is specialized in development economics, migration and population, political economy and conflict. She obtained her PhD in Economics from Paris School of Economics in 2014.

- **Anaïs PERILLEUX, Post-doc researcher,** is specialized in social economy, economic development, finance and cooperative ownership. She is also affiliated with CIRTES. She obtained her PhD in Economic and management sciences from the Université de Mons in 2011.

- **Sara SALOMONE, Post-doc researcher (FNRS),** is specialized in migration. She obtained her PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 2011.

- **Fatemeh SHADMAN MEHTA, Senior researcher,** is specialized in applied econometrics, with special interest in the fields of macroeconomics and the labor market. She is invited professor at the department of economics. She obtained her PhD in Economics from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1996.
IV. Early-stage researchers

In 2016-2017, IRES had 33 young researchers.

3 Doctoral students successfully defended their Doctoral Dissertation:

- Dédé ALIANGO MARACHTO (supervised by Marthe Nyssens)
  Doctoral dissertation: “La gouvernance des institutions de microfinance congolaise et son impact sur les objectifs sociaux et financier : une étude comparative”.

- Vanessa LUTGEN (supervised by Bruno Van der Linden)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Regional Unemployment”.

- Robert STELTER (supervised by David de la Croix)

30 Doctoral dissertations were in progress:

- Pablo AGUILAR (supervised by Luca Pensieroso)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Data revisions in the Analysis of DSGE Models”.

- Sofia ANDRADE DE MOURA PESSOA E COSTA (supervised by Muriel Dejemeppe)

- Fabio BLASUTTO (supervised by David de la Croix)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Cohabitation: Incentives and Norms”.

- Pablo AGUILAR (supervised by Luca Pensieroso)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Data revisions in the Analysis of DSGE Models”.

- Dédé ALIANGO MARACHTO (supervised by Marthe Nyssens)
  Doctoral dissertation: “La gouvernance des institutions de microfinance congolaise et son impact sur les objectifs sociaux et financier : une étude comparative”.

- Sofia ANDRADE DE MOURA PESSOA E COSTA (supervised by Muriel Dejemeppe)

- Boris CHAFWEHE (supervised by Rigas Oikonomou)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Essays in quantitative macroeconomics”.

- François COURTOY (supervised by Rigas Oikonomou)

- Thu Hien DAO (supervised by Frédéric Docquier)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Foreign Direct Investment, Migration and Growth”.

- Charlotte DE MONTPELLIER (supervised by Luca Pensieroso)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Short-Term Macroeconomics”.

- Christoph DEUSTER (supervised by Frédéric Docquier)
  Doctoral dissertation: “International Migration and Remittances”.

- Annalisa FRIGO (supervised by David de la Croix)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Family Transformations – Incentives and Norms”.

- Lucia GRANELLI (supervised by David de la Croix)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Essays on the Economics of the European Integration”.

- Zainab IFTIKAR (supervised by David de la Croix)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Estimating Macroeconomic Cost of Brain Drain to Pakistan”.

- Keiti KONDI (supervised by David de la Croix)
Abortion through Gender Indexes. Comparison of this Problematic between Same Communities Living in Different Region”.

- Louise LAMBERT (supervised by Marthe Nyssens)

- Louis LARUE (supervised by Isabelle Cassiers)

- Juliana MESEN VARGAS (supervised by Bruno Van der Linden)

- Dalal MOOSA (supervised by Bruno Van der Linden)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Essays in Generational Economics”.

- José Manuel MOURELLE TEJO (supervised by Henri Sneessens)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Public Debt Dynamics and Monetary Policy”.

- Alexandre OUNNAS (supervised by Bruno Van der Linden)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Mismatch Unemployment”.

- Guzman OURENS BROCOS (supervised by Florian Mayneris)

- Elisa RIZZO (supervised by David de la Croix)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Education Races and Conflicts in India after Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act”.

- Eric ROCA FERNANDEZ (supervised by Fabio Mariani and Luca Pensieroso)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Family, marriage and economic development”.

- Elisabetta SEVERI (supervised by Marthe Nyssens)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Collaborative cities for collaborative entrepreneurs”.

- Tommaso SONNO (supervised by Florian Mayneris)

- Guillermo SANTOS (supervised by Rigas Oikonomou)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Sovereign default in a model with Heterogeneous Agents”.

- Francesca TRUFFA (supervised by David de la Croix)

- Riccardo TURATI (supervised by Frédéric Docquier)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Modelling Immigration and Culture”.

- Daniele VERDINI (supervised by Gonzague Vannoorenbergh)
  Doctoral dissertation: “Demand Shocks and the Dynamic of Comparative Advantage”.
Job Market Placement

Each year, IRES provides jointly with the doctoral school some support to PhD students who are on the job market. They organize a mock interview session, doctoral students are also encouraged to present their job market paper at a special session of the doctoral workshop (DW) and at the Macro-Lunch Seminar.

IRES placement officer for the year 2016-2017 was Professor Rigas Oikonomou.

We provide below some examples of job placement of former IRES PhD or Postdoc researchers:

Bastien Chabé-Ferret moved to University of Essex in October 2017 where he serves as Senior Researcher Officer.

Paula Gobbi moved to ULB in September 2017, where she serves as Assistant Professor.

Marion Mercier moved to the University of Paris Dauphine in September 2017, where she serves as Associate Professor PSL.

Sara Salomone moved to UNU-CRIS and UGent in 2017 where she serves as Post-doctoral Researcher.

V. Research Associates

Research Associates are scholars from other institutions collaborating with IRES members. Our list includes Extramural Research Associates and UCLouvain Alumni (former PhD students and postdoc researchers from UCLouvain). The status of Research Associate is granted for one civil year by the IRES Council and is renewable. Extramural Research Associates visiting IRES on a regular basis and sharing an office at IRES can be promoted as Associate Fellows. After two years, Associate Fellows can become IRES members and take part in the IRES Council.

More details can be found at https://uclouvain.be/fr/node/9186

IRES has 50 Research Associates:

› 30 Extramural Research Associates

• Ron ANDERSON (Emeritus Professor of Finance, London School of Economics)

• Thomas BAUDIN (Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Lille)

• Michel BEINE (Professor at the University of Luxembourg)

• Michèlle BELOT (Professor at the University of Edinburgh)

• Raouf BOUCEKKINE (Professor at Aix-Marseille School of Economics)

• Robert BOYER (Associate Researcher at Institut des Amériques)
• Carmen CAMACHO (Chargée de recherche at Université de Paris 1)
• Bart COCKX (Professor at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Ghent University)
• Bruno CREPON (Associate Professor at Ecole Polytechnique and Head of Research Department at INSEE)
• Matthias DOEPKE (Associate Professor at Northwestern University)
• Giorgio FABBRI (Researcher at Department of Economic Studies of University “Parthenope” of Naples)
• Pedro GARCIA DUARTE (Associate Professor of Economics at University of Sao Paulo)
• Marcel GERARD (Full Professor of Economics and Taxation, Université catholique de Louvain)
• Marc GURGAND (Directeur de Recherche at CNRS and Paris School of Economics)
• Jean HINDRIKS (Professor in economics at the Université catholique de Louvain, Visiting professor KU Leuven, Senior fellow Itinera Institute)
• Ludovic JULIEN (Associate Professor at the University of Paris-Ouest Nanterre)
• Hélène LATZER (Professor at Université Saint-Louis Bruxelles)
• Etienne LEHMANN (Professor in Economics, University Panthéon-Assas Paris 2)
• Omar LICANDRO (Professor of Macroeconomics at the University of Nottingham)
• Mathieu PARENTI (Assistant Professor at Université Libre de Bruxelles)
• Giovanni PERI (Professor of Economics at the University of California Davis)
• Céline POILLY (Associate Professor at University of Aix-Maeseille)
• Hillel RAPOPORT (Professor at Paris School of Economics, University of Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne)
• François RYCX (Professor of Economics at the Université Libre de Bruxelles)
• Eric STROBL (Professor at Ecole the University of Bern)
• Ilke VAN BEVEREN (Assistant Professor, Lessius University College)
• Jackie WAHBA (Professor at the University of Southampton)
• Klaus WAELDE (Professor at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz)

> 20 UCL Almuni:
• Francesco DI COMITE (Regional Economic Modelling team leader at Joint research Center at the European Commission)
• Jean-François FAGNART (Professor at the Université Saint-Louis)
• Marc GERMAIN (Maître de Conférences at the University of Lille 3)
• Corinna GHIRELLI (Research fellow at the European Commission)
• Laurence JACQUET (Full professor at the University of Cergy-Pontoise, THEMA)
• Andrey LAUNOV (Senior Lecturer in Labour Economics at the University of Kent)
• Elisabetta LODIGIANI (Assistant professor at the University of Padua)
• Joël MACHADO (Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economics Research)
• Paolo MELINDI GHIDI (Assistant Professor at Université Parix-X Nanterre)
• Eva MORENO GALBIS (Professor of Economics at the University of Aix-Marseille)
• Augustin PEREZ-BARAHONA (Associate professor at the University of Cergy-Pontoise, THEMA)
• Matteo PICCHIO (Associate Professor in Economics at Marche Polytechnic University)
• Olivier PIERRARD (Researcher at the Central Bank of Luxembourg)
• Romain RESTOUT (Associate Professor at the Université de Lorraine)
• José Ramon RUIZ TAMARIT (Professor at the Universitat de València)
• Ilse RUYSSEN (Postdoctoral researcher at SHERPPA, Ghent University)
• Alexandre SIMONS (Fellow at Itinera Institute)
• Aminata SISSOKO (Researcher at the Katholieke Universiteit van Leuven)
• Alessandro SOMMACAL (Associate Professor at the University of Verona)
• Chrysovalantis VASILAKIS (Lecturer at Bangor Business School)
Publications and Academic Impact

This chapter covers articles published by IRES researchers during the academic year 2016-17, or forthcoming. It also provides some standard statistics assessing our academic impact.

I. Academic impact

II. Publication count

IRES’s academic output/impact in 2016-17 can be summarized as following:


- IRES members published 3 books, 10 book chapters and 28 IRES DP.

- The average number of citations per year, h-index and g-index of our faculty members are all on the rise.

- IRES members have 95 influential publications cited more than 50 times in Google Scholar including 48 contributions with more than 100 citations, and 42 papers with more than 25 citations in the Scopus database.

- On average, working papers and published articles of IRES faculty members gave rise to 35 abstract views and 13 file downloads per day in RePEc.

More details can be found in the following sections.
Bearing in mind the limitations of indicators of academic impact, we use several metrics to assess the importance of our faculty members’ publications: the HPP index based on Google Scholar, Scopus indicators, RePEc authors’ access statistics.

**Harzing’s Publish or Perish index (HPP)**

HPP considers scholarly citations and calculates a number of citations and impact statistics by field. Raw citations are obtained from Google Scholar. We use five indicators collected from HPP or directly from the authors’ Google Scholar webpages (on which authors have the possibility to merge some items): the average number of citations per year; the h-index (developed by J.E. Hirsch to measure the cumulative impact of a researcher’s output by looking at the number of citations his or her work has received: a scientist has an index score of $h$ if $h$ of his/her $N$ papers have at least $h$ citations each); the g-index (defined by L. Egghe in 2006, it adjusts the h-index by giving more weight to highly-cited articles); the number of citations of each author’s most cited paper; and the number of papers with at least 50 or 100 citations. To minimize the risk of counting publications by other researchers with the same name, we restricted our search to the field of “Business, Administration, Finance and Economics”. The authors’ access statistics only include faculty members affiliated to IRES in 2016-17. The statistics below were computed on October 4th, 2017.

![HPP h-index averages from 2010/2011 until 2016/2017](image1)

![HPP g-index averages from 2010/2011 until 2016/2017](image2)
During the period 1997-2017 the average score of the 18 current faculty members and the top-5 authors are the following:

- the average h-index was **14.2** for all faculty members, and **26.8** for the top-5 authors; 2014-15 values were 13.1 and 23.4, respectively;
- the average g-index was **29.6** for all faculty members, and **57.4** for the top-5 authors, with 2014-15 values of 27.6 and 53.4, respectively.

Using the data for all years available in the HPP and Google Scholar databases, the citation statistics are:

- on average, each staff member’s most cited paper is referred 256 times, with a corresponding value of 505.2 for the top-5 authors;
- the average number of papers cited more than 100 times is 2.7 per faculty member, and the average value for the top-5 authors is 6.8.

### Influential contributions to the literature (HPP)

According to the HPP and Google Scholar databases, between 1996 and 2016 (September 21st), **91** influential publications were cited more than 50 times in the literature, including **41** contributions with more than 100 citations (see Appendix for the list of contributions with more than 100 citations).


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**Scopus**

Scopus is a large abstract and citation database of research literature and quality web sources covering about 19,500 titles (mainly peer-review journals, book series, conference proceedings) from more than 5,000 publishers worldwide. Scopus provides citations and h-index statistics by author. Citations in working papers series and unpublished papers are not included. For this reasons, the number of citations per paper is (unsurprisingly) lower than the HPP index, which covers all types of citations. The average h-index of IRES faculty members and top-5 authors were 5.6 and 12.2, respectively (compared to 4.8 and 10.6 in 2016-2017). According to the Scopus, 42 papers authored by IRES members have more than 25 citations (statistics collected on October 4th 2017).

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**RePEc authors’ access statistics**

RePEc (Research Papers in Economics) is a collaborative effort of hundreds of volunteers in many countries to enhance the dissemination of research in economics. The heart of the project is a decentralized database of working papers, journal articles and software components. RePEc collaborates with the American Economic Association’s EconLit database to provide content from leading universities’ working paper series. The authors’ statistics are based on abstract views and file downloads of 794,658 working papers and 1,559,594 journal articles. The statistics below were computed on October 4th, 2017.

Focusing on the last 12 months, RePEc records 9,122 abstract views and 3,437 file downloads for working papers, and 3,728 abstract views and 1,548 file downloads for journal articles. Aggregating working papers and published articles, these numbers represent an average of 35 abstract views and 13 file downloads per day.
II. Publication count


In addition, 11 book chapters were published or forthcoming and 3 books were authored or edited, in 2016-17. IRES has produced 28 discussion papers in the IRES DP series. This indicates the success of our institution’s objective to promote high-quality academic research and publications in international journals. These contributions are listed in the sections below.

1. Papers published or forthcoming in peer-reviewed journals (36)

Papers forthcoming (13)


Docquier, Frédéric; Müller, Tobias; Naval, Joaquin. *Informality and Long-Run Growth*. In: *The Scandinavian journal of economics*, forthcoming.

Docquier, Frédéric; Ruysen, Ilse; Schiff, Maurice. *International migration: pacifier or trigger for military conflicts*. In: *Journal of Development Studies*, forthcoming.


Papers published in 2016-2017 (23)

Anda, David; de Arce, Rafael; Mahia, Ramon; Mercier, Marion. Reintegration upon return: insights from Ecuadorian returnees from Spain. In: International Migration, Vol. 54, no. 6, p. 56-73 (2016).


2. Book chapters (11)

Chapters forthcoming (1)


Chapters published (10)


### 3. Books (3)


De Keuleneer, Eric; Rentier, Bernard; Artige, Lionel; Boulanger, Paul-Marie; Bréchet, Thierry; Cassiers, Isabelle; de la Croix, David; Donnay, Philippe; Maréchal, Kevin; Touzi, Abdelfattah. *La croissance, réalités et perspectives : Actes du 21e Congrès des économistes belges de langue française*, Charleroi : Éditions de l’Université Ouverte, 2015. 721 pages.


### 4. IRES Discussion papers (28)


2017/15 Cardi, Olivier; Claeyts, Peter; Restout, Romain. *Imperfect mobility of labor across sectors and fiscal transmission*, 205 p.

2017/14 Mesen Vargas, Juliana; Van der Linden, Bruno. *Is there always a trade-off between insurance and incentives? The case of unemployment with subsistence constraints*, 33 p.


2017/7  Pensiero, Luca; Sommacal, Alessandro. *Agriculture to Industry: the End of Intergenera*, 18 p.


2017/5  Augeraud-Veron, Emmanuelle; Fabbri, Giorgio; Schubert, Katheline. *The value of biodiversity as an insurance device*, 29 p.


2016/29  Dao, Thu Hien; Docquier, Frédéric; Parsons, Chris; Peri, Giovanni. *Migration and Development: Dissecting the Anatomy of the Mobility Transition*, 32 p.


2016/24  Mariani, Fabio; Mercier, Marion; Verdier, Thierry. *Diasporas and Conflict*, 36 p.

IRES research areas

Faculty members of IRES are involved in three main areas of research: macroeconomics; labor economics, social policies and evaluation; international economics. For each area, we present a short overview of the research projects that were being conducted by IRES members in 2016-2017, the main publications and the research projects under contracts.

Research in macroeconomics - page 25

Labor economics, social policies and evaluation - page 31

Research in international economics - page 37
Research in Macroeconomics

Research in macroeconomics at IRES covers many aspects of macroeconomics theory, including macro-dynamic models (e.g. overlapping generations or Ramsey models), general equilibrium, computational economics and calibration methods, macroeconometric models, quantitative macroeconomics and historical analyses. Research in macroeconomics is organized around six main areas: short-run macroeconomics; growth and development theories; migration and economic development; macroeconomics, labor markets and fiscal policies; sustainable growth; history of macroeconomics.

The faculty members involved are Vincent Bodart, Isabelle Cassiers, David de la Croix, Michel De Vroey, Frédéric Docquier, Rigas Oikonomou, Fabio Mariani, Luca Pensieroso and Henri Sneessens. The team also includes senior researchers, Bastien Chabé-Ferret, Fatemeh Shadman Metha, Paula Gobbi, Paula Gobbi and Sarah Salamone.

I. Short-run macroeconomics
II. Economic development and growth theory
III. Economic development and migration
IV. Quantitative Macroeconomics
V. Sustainable growth
VI. History of macroeconomics and economic history

I. Short-run macroeconomics

Our team, supervised by Vincent Bodart, analyzes cyclical fluctuations and elaborates short-term forecasts for the Belgian economy. We produce a quarterly detailed report discussing recent economic developments in Belgium and providing short-term economic forecasts. We also analyze business cycle fluctuations and the effectiveness of macroeconomic policies in Belgium.

Another project, led by Henri Sneessens, uses DSGE models with heterogeneous agents to analyze the dynamics of productivity and risk premiums.

Main publications in 2016-2017

Research projects under contracts in 2016-2017

FINANCING: the Observatoire de la Formation des Prix, Ministère de l’Economie, Luxembourg
PROMOTERS: Ar. Bourgain (University of Luxembourg), F. Shadman and H. Sneessens,
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The aim of the project is to study how sectoral interactions contribute to shape sectoral wage developments. The focus is on the interactions between private and public wage interactions. We will estimate a VAR on quarterly data from Belgium, France, Germany and Luxembourg over the period 1995-2014 and compare results across countries in terms of co-integrating relationships and dynamic structure. Our contribution with respect to the recent literature on these issues is to enlarge the analysis by including all the macro variables typically used in macroeconomic setups. One of the objectives is to check whether one sector can be regarded as a wage leader or whether there are mutual influences between the private and the public sectors. This study will be further extended in the case of Luxembourg to include three sectors and to study the role of the financial sector.

II. Economic development and growth theory

IRES research on growth and development theory has been very active in recent years and has given rise to many publications.

Several projects are led by David de la Croix. They cover research topics such as the role of longevity in the transition from stagnation to growth, the effect of fertility of demographic convergence, the analysis of the impact of failing institutions on economic growth or the relationship between the decision to have children (and especially childlessness) and economic development. Another project in this area, led by Fabio Mariani, focuses on the links between life expectancy (longevity) and the environment. Another research, by Luca Pensieroso, studies the relationship between intergenerational living arrangements and economic growth. Related to this theme, Fabio Mariani and Luca Pensieroso analyse the relationship between economic growth and the changes in the family structure (see research project under contracts below).

Main publications in 2016-2017


Docquier, Frédéric; Müller, Tobias; Naval, Joaquín. Informality and Long-Run Growth. In: The Scandinavian journal of economics, forthcoming.


**Research projects under contracts in 2016-2017**

“Family, Marriage and Economic Development”

FINANCING: FSR
PROMOTOR: F. Mariani, L. Pensieroso
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project explores two aspects of the interplay between economic growth and the evolution of the family structure in a secular perspective. First, we formalize the idea that different legal and customary attitudes towards endogamous marriage in the pre-industrial epoch have played a significant role for comparative development, giving rise to differential patterns of economic development over time and across countries. Second, we investigate how the structural transformation out of agriculture during the industrial revolution, the demographic transition and the evolution of the patterns of intergenerational co-residence interact with each other.

“Chaire de recherche Fancqui 2014-2017”

FINANCING: Fondation Francqui
PROMOTOR: D. de la Croix
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The global aim of the project is to improve our knowledge of the mechanisms linking fertility to income in order to shed light on the relationship between inequality and development, and on the sustainability of both poor and rich societies. The project proceeds in two steps. First, identify the driving forces behind the drop in fertility in historical populations; second, investigate consequences of heterogeneity in fertility choices for growth and inequality.
“Family transformations, incentives and norms” (2015-2019)
FINANCING: Action de Recherche Concertée (ARC), Communauté française de Belgique
PROMOTORS: D. de la Croix, F. Mariani, E. Rizzi (DEMO)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Over the last century, marriage and the family have undergone radical evolutions. New patterns such as blended families or same-sex couples have emerged, divorce rates have increased, and fertility has gone down. These trends are both the cause and the outcome of value changes. By gathering economists from IRES and demographers from DEMO, this project aims at shedding light on the mechanisms that drive this type of family transformations, and on their consequences. Two main research directions will be developed. The first concerns the formation of the couple. It will notably investigate the evolution, drivers and consequences of the matching between partners; the emergence of new forms of marriages and their coexistence with old ones; and the interactions between the degree of endogamy in the society and economic development across time and space. The second part of the project focuses on the construction of the family and choices in terms of fertility, and will notably document the phenomenon of childlessness, the optimal age for pregnancy, and the interactions between religion and fertility. Across these various issues and following the fil rouge of the family cycle – from the formation of the couple to the enlargement of the family –, interactions and complementarities between the two disciplines and their different methodologies are expected to be very beneficial.

III. Economic development and migration

Our team is also involved in numerous researches on migration and economic development. In a first study, Frédéric Docquier and David de la Croix analyze the links between the brain drain and economic development. Second, we investigate the effects of international migration on the geographic distribution of human capital and its implications for the world economy (Frédéric Docquier). In a third project in migration, we look at the effect of migration on the welfare of residents in the receiving countries (Frédéric Docquier). Fourth, in a project led by Sara Salamone we explore the effect of migrants’ education and gender on the amount of remittances that are sent. Fifth, a project led by Fabio Mariani analyzes the welfare and growth effects of immigration with equilibrium unemployment and endogenous skill accumulation. Lastly, we are investigating the relationship between illegal immigration and the shadow economy (Fabio Mariani, Luca Pensieroso and Carmen Camacho).

Another project led by Frédéric Docquier, related to economic demography, aims at quantifying the size and structure of international migration.

A last research (Frédéric Docquier) indirectly linked to migration, evaluates the effect of labor force diversity on the performance of firms (see research project under contracts for more details).

Main publications in 2016-2017

Camacho, Carmen; Mariani, Fabio; Pensieroso, Luca. Illegal Immigration and the Shadow Economy. In: International Tax and Public Finance, forthcoming.

Docquier, Frédéric; Ruyssen, Ilse; Schiff, Maurice. International migration: pacifier or trigger for military conflicts. In: Journal of Development Studies, forthcoming.
IRES ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

RESEARCH IN MACROECONOMICS

IV. Quantitative Macroeconomics

Our team is also involved in the relationship between labor markets, fiscal policies and debt management. Some research study the impact of household decisions (such as labor supply and saving decisions) on aggregate macroeconomic phenomena. Another project looks at the effect of fiscal policies (and taxation) on sustainability of debts. Finally, another research project focuses on fiscal policy and heterogeneity in the economy. These projects are led by Rigas Oikonomou.

Main publications in 2016-2017


Research projects under contracts in 2016-2017

“Essays in Quantitative Macroeconomics”
FINANCING: Belgium National Bank
PROMOTER: R. Oikonomou
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: this project is on quantitative macroeconomics, in particular on models of heterogeneous agents and on optimal fiscal policy models. A first paper analyzes the importance of the secondary market for durables, for the risk sharing opportunities in an incomplete financial market. A second paper is a DSGE model with optimal tax and debt policies applied to the US data.

V. Sustainable growth

The concept of sustainability is central in growth and development theories. Our team - Isabelle Cassiers and Géraldine Thiry - is involved in a project that relates to the measurement of prosperity along the growth path. Multidisciplinary research can

Anda, David; de Arce, Rafael; Mahia, Ramon; Mercier, Marion. Reintegration upon return: insights from Ecuadorian returnees from Spain. In: International Migration, Vol. 54, no. 6, p. 56-73 (2016).


undoubtedly feed and enrich the economists’ approach by incorporating those of philosophers, sociologists, lawyers, medical specialists, agronomists, and engineers. In the context of this project, a specific focus has been put on indicators beyond GDP.

**Main publications in 2016-2017**


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### VI. History of macroeconomics and economic history

Our first historical project, led by Michel De Vroey, is the history of macroeconomics from Keynes up to the present. The objectives are to describe and analyze the history of macroeconomics, and highlight the sweeping changes that have occurred within it.

Another project, supervised by Isabelle Cassiers, concerns the analysis of half a century (from 1944 to the present time) of economic growth and crisis, institutional and social changes.

Our third historical topic is the analysis of the Great Depression, using dynamic general equilibrium (DGE) models (Led by Luca Pensiero and Michel De Vroey).

**Main publications in 2016-2017**


Labor economics, social policies and evaluation

IRES also works on diagnosing the functioning of labor markets, and analyzing the impacts and the design of labor market institutions and of active labor-market policies. In addition we study social and development policies, labor income taxation and social security contributions, the aging problem, social enterprises, non-profit organizations and public policies related to them, and human capital economics. Research in labor economics, on social policies and evaluation is organized around eight areas: unemployment, design of labor income taxation, firm level evaluation of labor market issues, economics of education, non-profit organizations and public policies, social policies, poverty and development and firms and local development policies.

The faculty members involved are Muriel Dejemeppe, Marthe Nyssens, Florian Mayneris, William Parienté, Vincent Vandenberghe, and Bruno Van der Linden. These researches also involve a senior researcher, Anaïs Perilleux.

I. Unemployment
II. Designing labor income taxation
III. Firm level evaluation of labor market issues
IV. Economics of education
V. Non-profit organizations and public policies
VI. Social policies, poverty and development
VII. Firms and Local development policies

I. Unemployment

Our team is involved in several projects related to the understanding of the causes of unemployment and the effects of interventions to reduce it. A first topic of research supervised by Bruno Van der Linden is on introducing the role of labor market frictions in some standard dynamic models of urban and regional economics. Another research, led by Muriel Dejemeppe and Bruno Van der Linden, focuses on the causes of unemployment disparities within Belgium and the impacts of possible public interventions.

A third research topic relates on the analysis of monitoring and sanction schemes that are nowadays widespread in unemployment insurance (Muriel Dejemeppe and Bruno Van der Linden). Another project focuses on employment policies targeting older workers (Muriel Dejemeppe and Bruno Van der Linden).

Finally, a last topic in the broad area of labor market participation is investigating the effects of interventions supporting self-employment in disadvantaged areas of France (William Parienté).
Main publications in 2016-2017


Research projects under contracts in 2016-2017

“Age, femmes et emploi : une évaluation” ("WOLDEMP") (2012-2017)
FINANCING: Belgian Science Policy
PROMOTORS: M. Dejemeppe, B. Cockx and B. Van der Linden
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: In 2005, due to the low employment rate among older workers (particularly female workers), the Belgian government set up the “Intergenerational solidarity pact”. This pact comprises a large number of measures intended to keep older workers longer in employment and also to get them back to work. This study aims at evaluating the overall effectiveness of employment policies targeting older workers in Belgium and to identify policies that are most likely to improve employment prospects for older people, particularly women.

II. Designing labor income taxation

The objective of this research led by Bruno Van der Linden is to analyze the optimal income tax scheme with endogenous participation and search unemployment. The research team studies optimal redistributive taxation when individuals are heterogeneous in their skills and the value they attach to non-market activities. A related topic is optimal marginal tax rates with both extensive and intensive labor supply responses. Finally another research uses empirical tools and panel data to revisit the links between payroll taxation and the level of unemployment.

III. Firm level evaluation of labor market issues

This research theme involves several researches on labor market issues analyzed at the firm level. In four different projects Vincent Vandenberghe investigates (i) the barriers to employment faced by older/female individuals using firm-level data on productivity, labor costs and (gross) profits; (ii) the empirical measurement of gender wage discrimination using firm-level direct measures of gender productivity and wage differentials; (iii) the analysis of the productivity gains/losses of resorting to part-time vs. full-time work assignment; (iv) the relationship between the changing labor forces characteristics and the TFP growth slowdown.

Another project (led by William Parienté) analyzes the effect of manager discrimination on the performance of employees in a specific firm environment and tests whereas discrimination can be a self-fulfilling mechanism.
Main publications in 2016-2017


IV. Economics of education

Our team, led by Vincent Vandenberghe, explores the relationship between human capital, productivity and wage formation. The research aims at providing estimates of the causal effect of education on productivity.

V. Non-profit organizations and public policies

Four projects in the area of non-profit organizations and public policy are supervised by Marthe Nyssens and involve researchers from CIRTES (Centre Interdisciplinaire de Recherche Travail et Société – Interdisciplinary Center for Research on Work and Society, UCL).

The first study focuses on employment and human resources management in social enterprises. A second issue relates to employment integration. It attempts to identify the institutional, organizational and inter-group processes that produce employment integration, particularly for ‘low-status’ workers and jobseekers. The next research area concerns the dynamic of social innovation in the provision of care services. The last issue relates to dynamics of social economy in the “South”.

Some other projects in this area, led by Anaïs Perilleux, focus on social enterprises in the south and analyze in the financial sector how the way surplus is distributed (in microfinance institutions) or on the relationship between gender and social performance (in financial cooperatives).

Main publications in 2016-2017


**Brolis, Olivier; Nyssens, Marthe.** *Le quasi-marché des titres-services : Qualité d’emploi, motivation au travail et diversité des prestataires.*, In: Ginette Herman; Donatienne Desmette; Evelyne Léonard, and Marthe Nyssens, *Quelle qualité d’emploi dans les services d’aide-ménagère ? Une approche multidisciplinaire* (Cahiers du CIRTES; 9), Presses universitaires de Louvain: Louvain-la-Neuve, 2016, p. 17-73. 9782875584540.


**Research projects under contracts in 2016-2017**

"If not for Profit, for What? And How" (2012-2017)

**FINANCING:** Interuniversity Attraction Pole Programme, Belgian Science Policy

**PROMOTORS:** M. Nyssens, F. Degavre (IACCHOS), D. DESMETTE (IPSY)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Around 45 faculty members and researchers in economics, management, sociology and psychology from 4 Belgian universities and four international research partners are involved in this IAP from the outset. They focus on “Building inter-disciplinary and integrated knowledge on social entrepreneurship and social enterprise”. The research program is structured around six main thematic lines: social innovation and social opportunities, financing social enterprise, employment and HRM, governance, social enterprise models and institutionalization processes, integration of findings and theoretical contributions.

"Chair Social Economy in the South “ (2012-2017)

**FINANCING:** Fondation Louvain

**PROMOTORS:** M. Nyssens and A. Lemaitre (IACCHOS)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Chair has three main objectives.

1. Training of researchers - PhD students and postdocs - in the following areas: mutual insurance, food and economic security strategies developed through social economy initiatives.
2. The development of these themes in master degrees (Master in Economics, Master in Development ...).
3. The development of synergies between research and action through the partnership with the NGO “Louvain-cooperation”.

"Innovations sociales en Wallonie pour un maintien à domicile” (“WISDOM”) (2014-2017)

**FINANCING:** Walloon Region

**PROMOTORS:** M. Nyssens, F. Degavre (IACCHOS)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** WISDOM is a 30 months research project financed by the Walloon region coordinated by Florence Degavre and Marthe Nyssens. The Institut de Recherches Santé et Société (UCL) and the Centre de Recherche Interdisciplinaire Approches Sociales de la Santé (ULB) and the Union des entreprises à profit social (UNIPSO) are partners of the project. Its objective is to contribute to social innovation in the field of home care for elderly people in Wallonia.
Chaire “Les Petits Riens”: The social economy as a way to tackle poverty” (2015-2020)
FINANCING: Les Petits Riens (indirect partnership with la Région de Bruxelles capitale)
PROMOTER: M. Nyssens
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The aim of this project is twofold: to shed some light, through scientific research, on the complexity of the social economy and to provide tools to promote the social and environmental sustainability of enterprises.
Les Petits Riens collects, selects and sells second hand clothes. Although less well known it also implements a wide range of social actions. Indeed, among others, Les Petits Riens host and support more than 300 homeless people every year. Engaged in this Chaire, this social enterprise has chosen a scientific approach to formalize and improve its actions and to share the knowledge acquired during more than 75 years of activity. It believes, indeed, that changing the way enterprises are organized from a social, economic and environmental perspective is a key factor to tackle poverty and exclusion.
Every year the Chaire will choose a different topic relevant for both social enterprises and the academic researchers in the field. This first year, it will investigate the issues and the complexity of social impact measurement. This topic is crucial for social enterprises as they face an increasing pressure from public bodies and private investors in order to prove their social impact. It is also a relevant subject for academic research as social impact measurement raises important theoretical and methodological questions.
Chaire’s Webpage: https://www.uclouvain.be/515272.html

“city4coEN: Collaborative cities for collaborative entrepreneurs” (2017-2021)
FINANCING: Innoviris Brussels-Anticipate (Prospective Research).
PROMOTORS: T. Dedeurwaedere, O. De Schutter, M. Nyssens
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project will conduct a comparative and systematic assessment of advantages and disadvantages of organisational and business models of the collaborative economy in the Region of Brussels-Capital in three specific sectors: mobility, housing and food. The project is a collaboration between 3 Belgian universities (UCLouvain, StLouis and Odisee-KUL).

VI. Social policies, poverty and development

In the field of social policies, poverty and development, we are studying the microeconomic determinants of poverty in developing countries and using field experiments to analyze the effectiveness of specific development policies. Three research projects, led by William Parienté, are focusing on the effects of relaxing either human capital or credit constraints in poor rural areas of Morocco and Pakistan.

Main publications in 2016-2017
**Research projects under contracts in 2016-2017**

“Accompagnement scientifique et méthodologique dans le cadre d’une étude évaluation expérimentale d’un dispositif visant à faciliter l’accès à un logement locatif privé” (2016-2017)

FINANCING: IWEPS (Institut wallon de l'évaluation, de la prospective et de la statistique; Namur, Belgique)

PROMOTORS: M. Dejemeppe, W. Parienté and B. Van der Linden

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The purpose of the evaluation project is to measure the effect of a new program, called «irrevocable mandate», for helping social welfare recipients in Wallonia (the French speaking region in the South of Belgium) gain access to private rental housing. With the agreement of the recipient, this program allows the public social welfare center to withhold the rent directly from the payment of welfare benefits. Against guaranteed payment of the rent, the owners undertake to reduce the rent amount. To evaluate this program, we intend to carry out a randomized controlled experiment. This experiment will consist in comparing a group of welfare recipients benefiting from the program and another group of recipients that do not receive the program, both groups being randomly chosen. We will support the researchers at IWEPS in setting up the experiment. Setting up the experiment is however conditional upon the outcome of a feasibility study aimed at assessing whether a randomized controlled experiment of the program is possible.

**VII. Firms and Local development policies**

Developed and developing countries implement regional or industrial policies to help lagging regions to catch-up or to promote the competitiveness of specific industries.

Florian Mayneris investigates these questions by analyzing the effects of cluster policies, which try to generate and enhance relationships between firms in the same sector located in the same region or other policies targeting deprived urban areas.

In another research, Florian Mayneris evaluates the effect of minimum wages on firms and their aggregate productivity focusing on the 2004 minimum wage reform in China.

**Main publications in 2016-2017**


Research in International Economics

IRES research in international economics focuses on trade and factor mobility. We have projects on export participation and firm-level performance and on demand-driven determinants of trade flows. The determinants and implications of factor mobility is another important area for us. This includes international movement of skilled and unskilled workers and the links between factor mobility and economic development and income inequality between nations. Research in international economics is organized around three main areas: trade theory and quality; trade, risk and volatility; and geographical mobility of labor.

The faculty members involved are Frédéric Docquier, Fabio Mariani, Florian Mayneris and Gonzague Vannorembeghe

I. Trade theory and Quality
II. Trade, risk and volatility
III. Geographical mobility of labor

I. Trade theory and Quality

Trade theory usually emphasizes the role of supply-side determinants of trade flows (productivity, relative endowments, size etc.). However, in a world where goods are more and more differentiated, consumer preferences should play a role in the determination of countries’ comparative advantages. Florian Mayneris investigate this question both theoretically and empirically in the context of European integration.

Florian Mayneris also analyzes how the specialization of countries in a given quality segment might have repercussions on macroeconomic outcomes. He uses French firm-level data and exploits information on the export prices charged by firms from the French luxury sector to identify high-end exporters.

Another research topic (led by Florian Mayneris) is focusing on the formation of groups of exporting firms and their strategy in terms of the products they export and in terms of quality type they choose to produce.
II. Trade, risk and volatility

While typically seen as a source of economic growth, international trade also affects the risk faced by countries, industries or firms. Being open to foreign market may raise their exposure to foreign shocks, but also makes them less sensitive to domestic shocks. Gonzague Vannoorenberghe investigates theoretically and empirically whether involvement in international trade acts as a source of volatility or of stability for different economic actors, with a particular focus on the variables mediating that relationship. While increased risk may not be a major concern in the presence of perfect markets and a high mobility of production factors, Gonzague Vannoorenberghe shows that increased risk has a differential impact on different groups and can generate welfare costs even in the presence of mild policy distortions. He notably investigates the effect of trade-induced risk on unemployment, the movement of labor across sectors, and the support for redistributive policies.

Main publications in 2016-2017


Research projects under contracts in 2016-2017

FINANCING: British Department for International Development (DFID)
PROMOTOR: G. Vannoorenberghe
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: EIP-LIC is to fill research gaps in the understanding of factors, institutions, and policies that can increase innovation and productivity in low-income countries in Africa and Asia. The project further involves active involvement of policy makers in Africa and Asia for articulating the research question and valorizing the research outcomes.

“Sources of change in comparative advantage and policy implications” (2017-2019)
FINANCING: FSR
PROMOTOR: G. Vannoorenberghe
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project develops a methodology to identify the determinants of long-run changes in comparative advantage across countries. These changes affect the specialization patterns of a country, and have deep consequences for workers and firms as they come with substantial adjustment costs. The project aims to better understand the sources of changes in comparative advantage, and to help the evaluation of policies designed to accompany them.
III. Geographical mobility of labor

Research on the geographical mobility of labor is related to research on the determinants of the international mobility of labor. A first project led by Frédéric Docquier aims (i) to identify the determinants of international labor mobility, (ii) to characterize the dynamics of migrant diasporas (defined as the stock of people born in country i and living in country j), (iii) quantify the role of total migration costs and their legal component, (iv) predict how many migrants could leave in case of a liberalization of migration.

Another project led by Fabio Mariani concerns the links between migration and crime. Its starting point is the fact that, contrary to popular perception, empirical evidence shows that crime rates are not necessarily higher among immigrants than among natives. However, in most cases, second-generation immigrants are more involved in criminal activities than natives. These stylized facts are analyzed theoretically in the framework of a two-country, endogenous «career choice» model.

Assimilation policies are the third pillar of immigration policies (together with quantitative restrictions (quotas) and qualitative selection of immigrants (skill requirements, for instance). Another project (led by F. Mariani) focused on the political economy, at the country level, of immigrants’ naturalization.

Main publications in 2016-2017


Interactions with decision-makers

Since its creation in 1928, IRES has always promoted deep interactions between fundamental research, applied research and policy recommendations in economics. Our members have a solid experience in advising policy makers and international institutions on varied issues related to the labor market, the business cycle and macroeconomic policies, growth policies, development and migration policies or trade policies. Below are described the main interactions between our scholars and public or private decision-maker.

I. Regards Économiques
II. Short run forecasts of the SAE (Service d’analyse économique)
III. Reports for external institutions
IV. Articles in newspapers and magazines and others publications 2016-2017
I. Regards Economiques

Regards Economiques is a publication of economists from the Catholic University of Louvain created in 2002 by IRES. Regards Economiques publishes (mostly in French) economic analyses on various socio-economic issues in a pedagogical and non-technical language in order to reach a large audience. It reflects the willingness of the economists from UCL to get more involved in the socio-economic debate, particularly in Belgium, and to contribute more directly to the understanding of socio-economic issues. Regards Economiques is intended to help and inform policy makers, business companies, non-profit organizations, but also teachers and students.

The editorial committee is made of academics from UCL. The purpose of the editorial committee is: (i) to incite economists from UCL to write articles and to promote some diversity in the covered subjects, (ii) to check the scientific quality of the published articles and (iii) to ensure that the articles are written in a language open to a large audience. The distribution of Regards Economiques is mainly electronic. The persons who take out a subscription to Regards Economiques receive an email announcing each new issue, which they can freely download in pdf format on the web site at http://www.regards-economiques.be.

The co-editors are Muriel Dejemeppe and Vincent Bodart. The editorial board also includes: Paul Belleflamme (CORE-ILSM), Frédéric Docquier (IRES), Jean Hindriks (CORE), Marthe Nyssens (IRES), William Parienté (IRES) and Mikael Petitjean (ILSM).

From September 2016 to July 2017, nine issues of Regards Economiques have been published:

• Issue 126 (September 2016), L’allocation universelle : quelques éléments pour y voir plus clair!, by François Maniquet, Dirk Neumann. This article has been downloaded 3,933 times.
• Issue 127, (September 016) Le Bitcoin : évaluation d’une innovation monétaire, by Louis Larue. This article has been downloaded 3,577 times.
• Issue 128 (December2016), La SNCB : prête pour la libéralisation totale du rail ?, by Axel Gautier, Iman Salem. This article has been downloaded 1,086 times.
• Issue 129 (January 2017), Perspectives économiques 2017, by Gautier Attanasi, Vincent Bodart, François Courtoy, Charlotte de Montpellier, Sébastien Fontenay, Alexandre Ounnas. This article has been downloaded 803 times.
• Issue 130 (March 2017), Réforme des pensions légales : le système de pension à points, by Pierre Devolder, Jean Hindriks, Erik Schokkaert, Frank Vandebroucke. This article has been downloaded 12,959 times.
• Issue 131 (March 2017), La finance comportementale : enjeux et perspectives, by Catherine D’Hondt, Rudy De Winne. This article has been downloaded 468 times.
• Issue 132 (April 2017), La mobilité internationale des étudiants : causes et déterminants, bymichel Beine. This article has been downloaded 614 times.
• Issue 133 (June 2017), Compétitivité et performances à l’exportation de la Belgique, by Vincent Bodart, Sébastien Fontenay. This article has been downloaded 655 times.
• Issue 134 (July 2017), Perspectives économiques 2017 – 2018, by Gautier Attanasi, Vincent Bodart, François Courtoy, Charlotte de Montpellier, Sébastien Fontenay, Alexandre Ounnas. This article has been downloaded 485 times.

On the top of that, 2 «focus» of Regards économiques have been published:

• 8 December 2016: La vitesse sur les marchés financiers : stop ou encore ? by Christophe Desagre, Floris Laly and Mikael Petitjean.
• 16 December 2016: Emploi, emploi, es-tu là (grâce à moi) ? by Bruno Van der Linden.

All these issues and focus are downloadable in French.
II. Short-run forecasts of the SAE (Service d’analyse économique)

Every quarter, the SAE produces a detailed analysis of short-term economic prospects in Belgium. The objective of this work is to provide public and private decision-makers with frequently updated forecasts for Belgium, which can be compared to those produced by official institutions (mainly the National Bank of Belgium and the Federal Planning Bureau) and by commercial organizations (mainly banks). Our forecasts are made available on a large scale via the media and the internet.

Our quarterly economic report is divided into four main chapters. In the first chapter, our hypothesis about commodity prices, interest rates and exchange rates are set out and discussed. In the second chapter, we analyze international economic developments outside the euro area while business cycle developments in the euro area are examined in the third chapter. The fourth chapter covers short-term economic prospects in Belgium. The quarterly report also contains a large appendix with our forecasts for a variety of international and Belgian macroeconomic variables (GDP and its components, employment and unemployment, inflation, interest rates, oil prices, world trade, fiscal balances, etc.). A synthesis of the overall analysis and the projections is presented in introduction. The analysis is supervised by Vincent Bodart.

III. Reports for external institutions

Reports published in 2016-2017

Bensliman, Rachida ; Callorda Fossati, Ela ; Casini, Annalisa, Degavre, Florence ; Macq, Jean ; Mahieu, Céline ; Nyssens, Marthe ; Schmitz, Olivier,. Les innovations sociales dans l’accompagnement à domicile en Wallonie. Deuxième rapport intermédiaire de la recherche Les innovations sociale, 2016, 95 p.


Dejemeppe, Muriel ; Dumont, Daniel ; Zune, Marc. Avis sur l’évaluation de la mise en œuvre du contrat de gestion de Bruxelles Formation 2012-2016 et recommandations en vue de l’élaboration du contrat de gestion 2017-2021, UCL-ULB, Rapport
IV. Articles in newspapers and magazines and others publications 2016-2017


Cassiers, Isabelle; Marechal, Kevin; Méda, Dominique. 10 thèses pour progresser vers une société de la post-croissance. In: L’Obs, (Avril 2017).


Cassiers, Isabelle. Qu’est-ce qui compte, et qui est habilité à le définir ?. In: Sources : Pour une vie reliée, no. 35, p. 78-80 (Juillet - Août 2016).

Cockx, Bart ; Dejemeppe, Muriel, Van der Linden, Bruno. Les politiques d’emploi pour les plus âgés sont peu efficaces. Article faisant écho à une étude de Bart Cockx, Muriel Dejemeppe et Bruno Van der Linden, Le Soir, pages 1 et 4, 20 février 2017.


de la Croix, David. The Consequences of Mr. Trump - Voices from Global Academia. On: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/5899b586e4b0985224db59b6


Events and exchanges

In this chapter, we list the events organized at IRES or by IRES members during the academic year 2016-2017. In addition, IRES members had more than 150 participations to seminars, conferences, workshops and exchanges of some duration in other universities during this period.

I. Conferences organized by UCL members
II. The UCLouvain Economics Seminar
III. The Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar (MLS)
IV. Doctoral Workshop
I. Conferences organized by UCL members

IRES members organized 12 conferences or workshops in 2016-2017

- de la Croix, David; Mariani, Fabio; Pensieroso, Luca, “2nd workshop on Family Transformations: Incentives and Norms”, Durbuy, January 16-18, 2017.
- Mariani, Fabio; Mercier, Marion, “Migration and Conflict”, Louvain-la-Neuve, June 8-9, 2017.

http://emes.net/events/conferences/6th-emes-international-research-conference-social-enterprise/

II. The UCLouvain Economics Seminar

The UCLouvain Economics Seminar is held on Thursdays from 12:45 to 14:00 at Building Doyen, Room 22. Organization: W. Pariente (William.pariente@uclouvain.be).


The UCLouvain Economics Seminar in 2016

- September 22, Pedro Teles (Catholic University of Portugal), “More on the Taxation of Capital”.
- September 29, Valérie Smeets (Aarhus University, Danemark), “Multi-product firms, import competition and the evolution of firm-product technical efficiencies”.
- October 6, Albert Marcet (Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, Spain), “Stock Price Booms and Expected Capital Gains”.

http://emes.net/events/conferences/6th-emes-international-research-conference-social-enterprise/
EVENTS AND EXCHANGES

- **October 13**, Nuno Palma (University of Groningen, The Netherlands), “The existence and persistence of liquidity effect: evidence from a large-scale historical natural experiment”.

- **October 20**, Sandra McNally (University of Surrey, United-Kingdom), “Entry Through the Narrow Door: The Costs of Just Failing High Stakes Exams”.


- **November 10**, Shankha Chakraborty (University of Oregon, United-States), “Age-Specific Effects of Mortality Shocks and Economic Development”.

- **November 17**, Fabian Herweg (University of Bayreuth, Germany), “Optimal Cost Overruns: Procurement Auctions with Renegotiation”.

- **November 24**, Paolo Giordani (LUISS “Guido Carli” University, Roma, Italy), “Market Frictions in Entrepreneurial Innovation: Theory and Evidence”.

- **December 1**, Fabrice Collard (University of Bern, Switzerland), “Public Debt as Private Liquidity: Optimal Policy”.


The UCLouvain Economics Seminar in 2017

- **February 2**, Piero Gottardi (European University Institute, Florence, Italy), “A Theory of Repurchase Agreements, Collateral Re-use, and Repo Intermediation”.


- **February 16**, Kalina Manova (Oxford University, United-Kingdom), “Managing trade: evidence from China and US”.

- **February 23**, Antonio Cabrales (University College of London, United-Kingdom), “What you know… Can’t Hurt you? A field Experiment on Relative Performance Feedback in Higher Education”.

- **March 2**, Takeshi Murooka (Munich Univesity, Germany), “The Timing of Choice Enhancing Policies”.

- **March 9**, Pedro Vicente (Nova Lisbon, Portugal), “Introducing Mobile Money in Rural Mozambique: Evidence from a Field Experiment”.


- **March 23**, Jose I. Silva (University of Girona, Spain), “Local labor market effects of public employment”.


- **April 20**, Jérôme Pouyet (Paris School of Economics, France) “Vertical mergers in platform markets”.

• **April 27**, Alessandro Tarozzi (Pompeu Fabra University, Spain), “Evaluation of Alternative Strategies to Increase Demand for and Responses to Information on Arsenic-contaminated Tubewell Water in Bangladesh”.

• **May 4**, David Neumark (University of California-Irvine, United-States), “Is it Harder for Older Workers to Find Jobs? New and Improved Evidence from a Field Experiment”.


• **May 18**, Juan Dolado (European University Institute, Florence, Italy), “From Dual to Unified Employment Protection: Transition and Steady State”.


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**III. The Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar (MLS)**

The Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar is an informal forum where researchers present their work in progress in details and receive criticism and feedback from colleagues. PhD students entering the job market are strongly encouraged to present their job market paper. Occasionally, the Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar hosts presentations from visiting scholars.


Organization: Luca Pensieroso (luca.pensieroso@uclouvain.be) and Paula Gobbi (paula.gobbi@uclouvain.be).

The MLS in 2016

• **September 30**, Andreas Gulyas (UCLA, Los Angeles, United-States), “Identifying Labor Market Sorting with Firm Dynamics”.

• **October 4**, Guzman Ourens (IRES, UCL), “Uneven Diversification and Divergence”.

• **October 11**, Chris Cunningham (Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, United-States), “Fracking and Mortgage Default”.

• **November 8**, Florian Mayneris (IRES, UCL), “Providing services to boost goods exports”.


• **November 22**, Marianna Battaglia (University of Alicante, Spain) “Segregation and Fertility: the Case of the Roma in Serbia”.

• **November 29**, Alessandro Barattieri (Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada), “Asymmetric Trade Liberalizations and Current Account Dynamics”.

• **December 6**, Aude Pommeret (City University of Hong Kong), “When Cancun met Nagoya”.

• **December 13**, Pierre Pecher (Aix-Marseille School of Economics, France), “Transborder Ethnic Kin and Regional Prosperity: Evidence from Nighttime Light Intensity in Africa”.

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The MLS in 2017

- **January 10**, Thomas Baudin (Université Lille 3, France), “Why may China fail to increase its fertility again? Cultural consequences of the one child policy”.
- **January 24**, Paula Gobbi (IRES, UCL), “Childless Aristocrats, Fertility, Inheritance, and Persistent Inequality in Britain (1650-1882)”.
- **January 31**, Jesus Vasquez (University of the Basque Country, Spain), “Aggregate persistence in an estimated DSGE model with real-time learning”.
- **February 7**, Dala Moosa (IRES, UCL), “The demographic boom and labor market informality: the case for Egypt”.
- **February 14**, Jean-Noël Senne (Université Paris Sud, France), “You’ll be a migrant my son: Accounting for migrant selection within the household”.
- **February 21**, Sara Lazzaroni (University of Bologna, Italy), “historical roots of preferences over political regimes: Monarchy vs. Republic in 1946 Italy”.
- **March 7**, Emeline Bezin (IRES, UCL), “An economic theory of ethical consumer culture and directed technological change”.
- **March 14**, Nhung Luu (Université Paris 1, France), “Asset prices and inequality in heterogenous sOLG model”.
- **March 21**, Gao Zhengyuan (CORE, UCL), “An attempt to understand economic inequality from a non-abstact perspective”.
- **March 28**, Vivien Lewis (KULeuven), “The interdependence of monetary and macroprudential policies under the zero lower bound”.
- **April 18**, Ferre De Graeve (KULeuven), “Forward guidance, Quantitative Easing, or both ?”.
- **April 25**, Thu Hien Dao (IRES, UCL), “Global migration pressure in the 21st century – The unstoppable force of demography”.
- **May 2**, Maxime Menuet (Université d’Orléans, France), “Public debt, endogenous growth cycles and indeterminacy”.
- **May 9**, Veronique Gille (Paris Dauphine, France) “Measuring sex-selective abortion: are there repeated abortions”.
- **May 16**, Jochen Mankart (Research Center Deutsche Bundesbank, Germany), “Bank capital buffers in a dynamic model”.
- **May 23**, Edoardo Ciscato (Science-Po, Paris, France), “Marriage, divorce and unemployment risk”.
- **May 30**, Guillaume Khayat (Aix-Marseille School of Economics, France), “Heterogeneous interbank frictions, excess reserves and the corridor”.
- **June 6**, Annalisa Frigo (IRES, UCL), “Now she is Martha, then she is Mary: the influence of Beguinages on attitudes toward women”.
- **June 13**, Geert Goeyvaerts (KULeuven), “Improve, move or wait under the same une 20th roof: A dynamic model with underwater mortgages”.
- **June 20**, Frederico Curci (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain): “Flight from urban blight crime and suburbanization in the U.S.”.
- **June 27**, Arnaud Herault (Université d’Angers, France): “Occupational choices and network effects: Evidence from France”.
IV. Doctoral Workshop

The Doctoral Workshop (DW) is a research forum co-organized by UCL and FUNDP during which students have the opportunity to present part of their completed or ongoing research. Event though presentations are reserved to doctoral students, access to the workshop is open to a larger public. Professors and researchers of the Department and from partner institutions are invited to attend all sessions. The Doctoral students from FUSL, ULB, ECARES, ULg, UGent and KULeuven are kindly invited to attend the sessions and present their research.

The DW for the academic year 2016-2017 took place twice:

• On December 2016 at Université de Namur;
• On the 29th of May 2017 at Université catholique de Louvain.
Contributions with more than 100 citations according to the HPP and Google Scholar databases


180 citations for: Banerjee, Abhijit; Duflo, Esther; Goldberg, Nathanael; Karlan, Dean; Osei, Robert; Parienté, William; Shapiro, Jeremy; Thuysbaert, Bram; Udry, Christopher. A multifaceted program causes lasting progress for the very poor: Evidence from six countries. In: Science, Vol. 348, no. 6236, p. 772-788 (15 May 2015).


123 citations for : Docquier, Frédéric; Lodigiani, Elisabetta; Rapoport, Hillel; Schiff, Maurice. Emigration and Democracy. In: Journal of Development Economics, Vol. 120, p. 209-223 (May 2016).


