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MINISTERIO DE ECONOMÍA Y COMPETITIVIDAD INFORMACIÓN COMERCIAL ESPAÑOLA Secretaría de Estado de Comercio

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

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ALEMANY GIL, Luisa and URRIOLAGOITIA DORIA, Lourdes

Entrepreneurial initiative and youth in Spain

Spain's level of unemployment is high, particularly among youth. 26 per cent of youth aged 15 to 29 are not in education or employment, and this is the highest rate in Europe. Creation of employment is associated with large companies, but however new employment emerges at recently-created enterprises. Entrepreneurs are the key to economic growth; setting an initiative in motion means not being unemployed. This article provides a definition of entrepreneurial initiative, its expressions and significance. There is a study of the characteristics of entrepreneurs, the comparative situation of Spain and social perceptions. Lastly, there is an analysis of the attitude and aptitude of Spanish youth for entrepreneurship, in addition to the importance of entrepreneurial education and its impact.

Key words: entrepreneurship, youth, employment creation.

JEL classification: M13, L26, I2.

ARCE GONZÁLEZ, Guadalupe

Carbon leakage, emission haven hypothesis and alternative hypotheses. A review of the literature

This article conducts a review of the work assessing the main hypotheses concerning international trade and environment. Firstly, we look at theories arguing a negative impact, the pollution haven hypothesis and the effect of pollution havens, where mitigation policies are asymmetrical among countries, and secondly, there is an analysis of the alternative Porter and factor endowment hypotheses. The argument that trade, in particular among developed and emerging countries, deteriorates the environment, leads us to review the studies assessing the alternatives combatting emission leakage: sector approaches, border adjustments and free assignment of emission rights.

Key words: international trade, environment, pollution havens, carbon leakage.

JEL classification: F18, Q54, Q56.

ARELLANO ESPINAR, F. Alfonso and JANSEN, Marcel

Minimum wage and youth employment. Are changes required?

The purpose of this article is to review the relationship between the minimum wage (MW) and the labour situation of the youngest employees in Spain prior to and during the crisis, in 2007 and 2013. Using data from the Constant Sample of Work Histories (MCVL) of the Social Security, evidence on salary distribution and the Kaitz index for the various age groups is provided. The results suggest that the MW has been a greater obstacle barring opportunities to find employment for the youngest in respect of the overall working population, particularly in the case of new contracts agreed in 2013.

Key words: NMW, Kaitz index, young workers, Spain.

JEL classification: J31, J32, J39.

CAPSADA MUNSECH, Queralt

Education and youth unemployment

In Spain, like in other western countries, people with the highest levels of education are less likely to be unemployed. This inverse relationship between education and unemployment is particularly relevant for youth, as for most of them the educational level attained is the sole method of proving their abilities and knowledge in the employment market. Therefore, young people with lower educational levels suffer the greatest risk of unemployment. The situation of these young people is inflated in the rate of youth unemployment, which only considers youth active in the employment market, excluding youth still in the training stage. Given the situation of the transition of youth from education to the employment market, the various activities carried out by the members of this collective need to be considered in order to assess their situation. Some indicators supplementing the youth unemployment rate with a higher level of inclusion of the youth collective are the unemployment index, the NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) percentage, and the overall situation of youth.

Key words: educational level, opportunity cost, youth unemployment, premature school abandonment.

JEL classification: I21, J64.

EGG, Maria Esther and RENOLD, Úrsula

The Swiss vocational training system: What can Spain learn from Switzerland?

Switzerland is renowned for its Vocational Education and Training system (VET). This article describes Switzerland's success in integrating adolescents into the labour market, placing the emphasis on two aspects. The first aspect is the dual VET path, combining training in vocational schools and in businesses, providing an attractive choice for adolescents. It prepares them for the labour market and also assists them in paving the way towards higher education. Secondly, the decision of companies to train adolescents is similar to the prisoner's dilemma. We show how Switzerland has warded off the dilemma, succeeding in preventing opportunism from becoming an issue of any significance. Finally, we discuss the lessons Spain can learn from the Swiss VET system.

Key words: vocational training in Switzerland, learning, excellence standards, youth employment market, prisoner's dilemma.

JEL classification: C71, I21.

ESCUDERO VASCONEZ, Verónica and LÓPEZ MOURELO, Elva

Youth Guarantee scheme in Europe: characteristics, progress and challenges

The European Youth Guarantee scheme is an innovative policy with the goal of ensuring that all young people receive training opportunities or quality employment commensurate with their skills and experience. This article analyses the main characteristics of this scheme, examining the factors supporting its success and its presence in the implementation stage in European countries. Our analysis shows that although most practice plans include the recommended combination of training and labour intermediation, in addition to an appropriate institutional framework, there is no such unanimity in the allocation of resources.

Key words: Youth guarantee, unemployment, active policies, employment market.

JEL classification: J08, J21, J23, J24.

GALINDO ALFONSO, Jorge and RAMOS MARTÍN, María

Labour market integration pattern and its effects on the labour situation of youth

Patterns of access to the labour market and the time of the economic cycle have effects on labour risks such as unemployment, seasonality and involuntary partial employment. With data from the ad hoc module of 2009 of the Survey on Active Population (EPA) we verify that youth who have employment experiences while they are studying encounter less labour risks in the future. On the contrary, those accessing the labour market with a temporary contract or a low occupational status face greater risks, something that does not happen to youth taking less to access their first job. These results suggest that to reduce labour risks of youth it is essential to design special policies oriented to collectives starting their labour integration in worse conditions.

Key words: labour integration, youth, unemployment, involuntary seasonality, involuntary partial employment.

JEL classification: J24, J64.

GARCÍA LÓPEZ, Juan Ramón

Youth unemployment in Spain

Youth unemployment in Spain is a persistent phenomenon exacerbated over the recent recessive period until hitting a figure of 50 of the active population and becoming 2.4 times the average in the European Union (EU15). The evidence presented in this article indicates that there are deficiencies in the education system, such as early school leavers, the imbalance between employment offer and demand by qualifications and the training-employment dichotomy, and also deficiencies of the employment market, including the dual-tier system, the mechanism for establishing salaries and the limited efficiency of active employment policies, with both factors feeding each other and explaining the size of the issue.

Key words: unemployment, youth, education, institutions of the labour market.

JEL classification: I21, J5, J64.

ROSAL FERNÁNDEZ, Ignacio del

The diversification of Spanish exports: an aggregate approach based on the granular hypothesis (1988–2011)

This article focuses on the aggregate analysis of the diversification of Spanish exports, from the product viewpoint, taken at monetary value. The statistical source employed is the Foreign Trade Statistic and the period studied is 1988-2011. Following a descriptive analysis of the diversification of exports, the main contribution of this paper consists of contrasting the hypothesis on granular behaviour of macroeconomic aggregates proposed by Gabaix (2011). The results suggest that growth of overall Spanish exports is less dependent on the circumstances of the most significant products than would otherwise be expected.

Key words: exports, international marketing, Spain.

JEL classification: F43, M31.

VILA NÚÑEZ, Sonia

Geographical mobility in the European Union of youth seeking opportunities and its implications

This article analyses the issues and trends of labour mobility inside the European Union (EU), paying special attention to youth. Despite the increasing importance of labour geographical mobility which is likely to become more prominent in forthcoming years, the conclusion is that mobility within the EU is still modest, despite its potential to correct part of the imbalances of the employment market and, therefore, the potential for relevant social impact. There is also an analysis of the current state of affairs, given that understanding the labour geographical mobility phenomenon requires a brief examination of the challenges and deficiencies of the labour market and the issues of employees, companies and States in respect of mobility. The tools available on an EU level to foster mobility are analysed briefly.

Key words: unemployment, youth, labour mobility.

JEL classification: I21, J5, J62.

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