

Introductory remarks

Virtual Conference Bratislava

Filippo di Mauro
Chairman of CompNet

22 June, 2020

Thanks

- Thanks very much to National Bank of Slovakia for hosting us.
- Sorry not be able to be in fascinating Bratislava



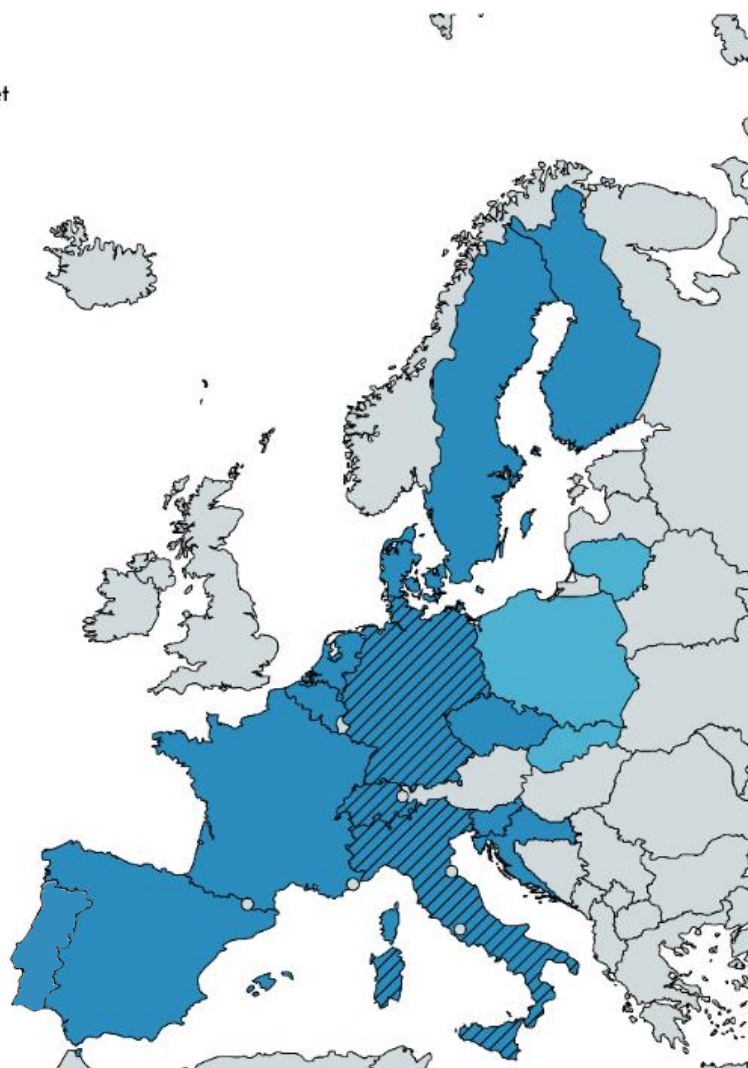
CompNet activities so far in 2020

- Challenging times.
- Despite the difficulties CompNet has been very active and present in the research and policy debate
- Will mention some highlights

The 7th Vintage of the CompNet Dataset

Countries included in the 7th Vintage of the CompNet Dataset

- All and 20e Sample available
- 20 Sample available
- New Data Sources



- 19 countries
- ...and a few more possibly in the pipeline (Ireland, Malta....)
- Technically, we have improved
 - outlier routines
 - New variables
 - Cross country comparability
- More in the new User-Guide
- The dataset is by now Top-standard and is used in several hundreds research groups
- ➔ Available to members already.
- ➔ From September to others

Meetings and initiatives

- **3rd CompNet Data Provider Forum**

- Mid-April 2020.....we keep discussing the experience related to the just completed data collection in preparation for the new data collection end 2020

- **2020 Firm Productivity report**

- May 2020....our flagship report published, also with a chapter with Marc Melitz

- **EU Productivity Boards (PB)**

- June 2020...we engage in dialogue and presented our report

- **Training**

- Even before the crisis, we had introduced e-learning courses on micro-econometrics on use of CompNet dataset for policy and research
- Further rounds next summer and next Fall.

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The COVID crisis and productivity growth

Filippo di Mauro, Chad Syverson 15 April 2020

The world went into the COVID crisis in the midst of a 15-year-long productivity growth slowdown. This column considers the channels through which the crisis might shift the growth rates of productivity and output. Globalisation, labour mobility and small firms may all fall victim to the crisis if the world does not succeed in reopening borders, refraining from trade and currency wars and focusing on policies to boost productivity. On the upside, the broad adoption of new technologies – such as IT skills during the epidemic – and strong reallocation pressures may provide an independent boost on productivity as we come out of the crisis.



After the initial wave of the pandemic recedes, productivity will (have to) become yet again a primary concern of economists and policymakers. There are a number of reasons why this crisis might further impair productivity growth, including higher transactions costs (Baldwin and Weder di Mauro 2020), lower mobility, and a reduced scope of resource reallocation across firms, sectors, and countries. There might also

Related

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Filippo di Mauro

Visiting Professor, National University of Singapore and Chairman, CompNet



Chad Syverson

George C. Tiao Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business

CompNet and Coronavirus crisis: a map for action

Which research questions

- How will the crisis affect aggregate productivity?
- How will the crisis affect productivity dispersion? (across firm dimension, sectors, countries)

Which data: How can CompNet contribute?

- Distributions
- Sectoral data
- Regional data

Which other data we are using:

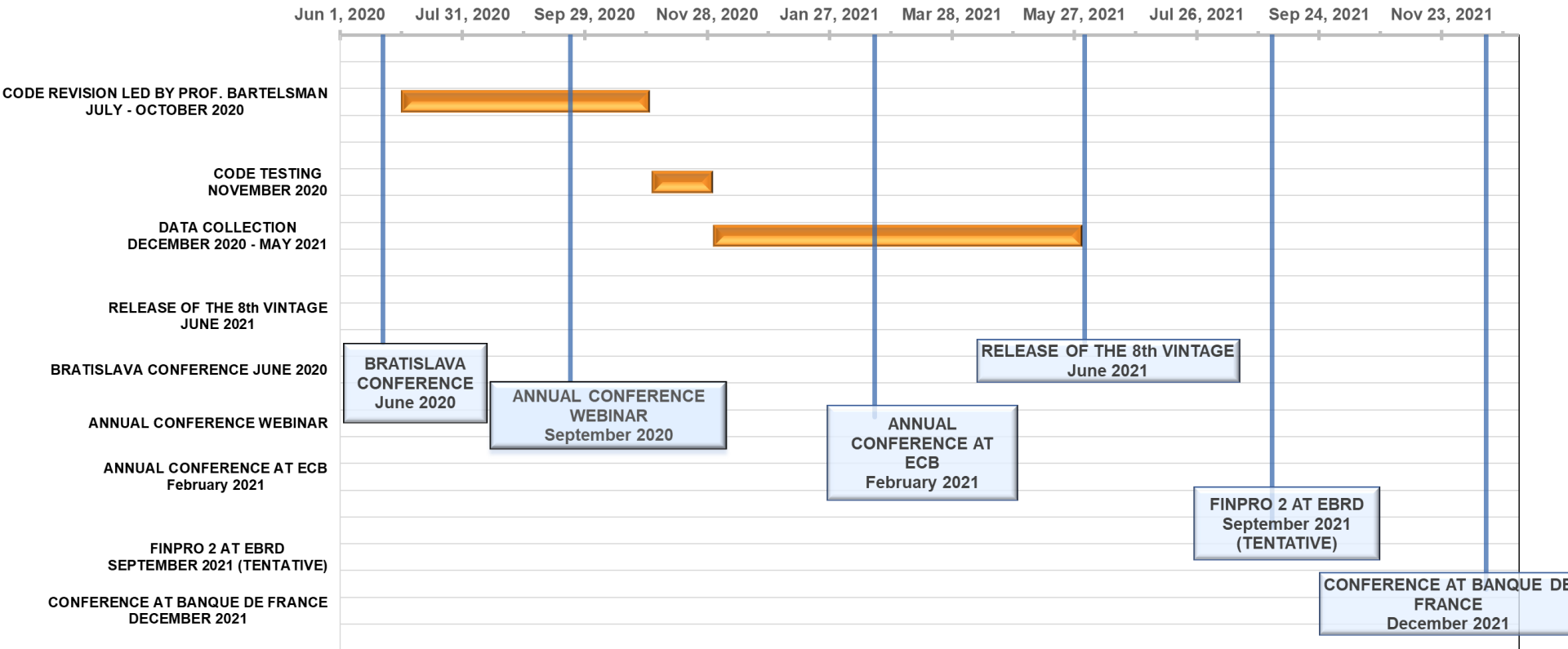
- High frequency data (business data, VAT authorities)
- Home working /automation diffusion
- Covid Risk by sector

To recap: plenty of questions with a few guesses for now on the COVID impacts that we are trying to verify, namely on

- Technology adoption (+)
- Cleansing / reallocation (+)

- Supply chain disruptions (-)
- Financial frictions (-)

Forthcoming events



We are welcoming new Members

- The German Council of Economic Experts (Sachverständigenrat)
- KRTK of Hungary
- Banque de France and Banco do Portugal have re-joined CompNet.

**Thanks again for the
hospitality to Central Bank of
Slovakia**

To all...Enjoy the Conference!