

# Newsletter No. 29

## Data Collection and CompNet Reports, an Update

The data collection process is ongoing. Currently, we have received output data for eleven countries: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

## Call for Papers

### SAVE THE DATE!

23-24 April 2020

*“Sustainable development, firm performance, and competitiveness policies in transition or recently advanced economies.”* The Competitiveness Research Network (CompNet) and the National Bank of Slovakia (NBS) are jointly calling for papers addressing one or more of the topics mentioned above from both, micro and macro level perspectives.

## 1<sup>st</sup> CompNet Data User Conference - Summary

On 8-9<sup>th</sup> October 2019, France Stratégie, a member of CompNet, hosted the **1<sup>st</sup> CompNet Data User Conference** in Paris. The main objective of the conference was to gather academics and researchers to discuss their studies using CompNet datasets. The conference has been successful in giving the chance to all participants to explore synergies and getting ideas on new research projects. The main contents of the conference covered the link between productivity and trade, labor market features and productivity, trade and firm heterogeneity. The allocation of capital and the role of financial markets, and the drivers of wages in the EU countries.

Each presentation was enriched by comments proposed either by a discussant or by the participants.

A more detailed summary of the conference can be found here (<https://bit.ly/361SIDb>) For the full presentations please use the following link: <https://bit.ly/2JgXZgv>. A video summary can be found here (<https://bit.ly/35XqwRL>).



## SAVE THE DATE!

17 – 18 June 2020

*“Trade, Productivity Growth, Financial Flows and Distributional Challenges in the Era of De-Globalization”.*

The Competitiveness Network (CompNet) and the European Central Bank (ECB) are jointly organising the 9th Annual Conference of CompNet. The Call for Papers will be distributed shortly.

## Job offer

The Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH) is seeking to hire a student assistant for 40–80 hours a month (negotiable), starting as soon as possible to support the activities of the Competitiveness Research Network (CompNet). The contract will be limited to six months. The students will support the activities of CompNet:

- maintenance and enhancement of the dataset collected by the network, in particular the Diagnostic Toolkit for Competitiveness
- assistance in the planning, organization, and execution of events (e.g. conferences) and



## 1<sup>st</sup> Finance and Productivity Conference

The Great Financial Crisis of 2007/2008 still casts a shadow on many developed economies in terms of real outcomes: investment, innovation, employment, or trade – among others - are still influenced by the Great Crisis. Whereas a plethora of macro-prudential measures strengthened the resilience of financial systems, immediate liquidity assistances provided by lenders of last resort around the globe created potentially hazardous dependencies of financial institutions and markets on loose re-financing conditions. This environment alleviated credit constraints for non-financial firms, but it might also have contributed to the rise of unsustainable leverage in the corporate sector, and poor governance and monitoring that leads ultimately to the misallocation of real resources.

CompNet, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Department of Financial Markets at the Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH) invite you to attend the conference. The **1<sup>st</sup> Finance and Productivity Conference (FINPRO)** will be hosted at **EBRD in London** on **2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019**. More information can be found here: <https://www.comp-net.org/conferences/>.

**Attendance is free and open to everyone who has pre-registered. Please email Lucie Newman ([newmanl@ebrd.com](mailto:newmanl@ebrd.com)) to register your attendance.**

## CompNet Training at European Commission

On the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019, CompNet representatives visited the European Commission’s DG GROW in Brussels for a hands-on training session using the CompNet 6<sup>th</sup> vintage dataset. Following this event, CompNet launched an e-learning training course that was held by two CompNet consultants. Several economists from the European Commission attended it. The training took place in two remote sessions on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> of September, analyzing the sixth vintage. CompNet plans to provide this type of training on a continuative basis: the course will be then an autonomous online learning unit. It will be divided into

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the presentation of results

- assistance in the writing of reports

The deadline to apply is on 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2019. Please find more information [here](#).

three modules: one for beginners, targeted at CompNet's first users, professionals and students with a limited knowledge of STATA, micro-data and/or economic theory; one for intermediates, targeted at users that are familiar with the basic structure of CompNet and micro-based analysis; one for advanced users, i.e. targeted at professionals and scholars with a solid knowledge of applied economics.

## Joint CompNet and NBS Conference – Bratislava 23-24 April 2020

Globalization and the wide acceptance of the free market paradigm followed by the expansion of the global value chains and foreign investments have supported capital-embedded technological change and knowledge transfer across transition and recently advanced economies. Deregulation and promotion of competition have increased those countries productivity tremendously. At the same time, wide ranging “sustainability” concerns have become more urgent, thus defeating the traditional measures aimed to promote economic growth and help countries to escape the middle-income trap. As a result, to create the new “tigers” of the future, policies need to encompass a much more complex set of issues, which may contrast with the sole objective of improving productivity.

The Competitiveness Research Network (CompNet) and the National Bank of Slovakia (NBS) are jointly calling for papers addressing one or more of the topics mentioned above from both, micro and macro level perspectives.

We are particularly interested in academic work with strong policy relevance on the following topics:

- Competitiveness policies in small open economies
- Structural transformation and distributional consequences
- Industrial policies facing inequality and political populism
- Transition to low-carbon economies from firm-level perspective
- The interaction between monetary and competitiveness policies
- Factor reallocation and growth
- Sustainable development and middle-income trap
- New drivers of firm performance

The deadline for submission is **15 January 2020**. The call for papers is available [here](#). Papers should be emailed to [secretariat@comp-net.org](mailto:secretariat@comp-net.org).

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