

The IER Seminar in Empirical Economics

We would like to invite you all for the 18th IER seminar series in empirical economics that will be held at the *library of the Institute of Economics at Šancová 56, Bratislava on September 6th, 2013 at 10:40*. The speaker will be

Prof. Mariana Bălan, PhD.

Institute for Economic Forecasting – NIER, Romanian Academy

on

**Features, Dimensions and Costs of Romanian
"Neet" Youth in the European Context**

Short abstract is attached to the document.

We are very much looking forward to see you all at the seminar.

Kind regards

Marek Radvanský and Menbere Workie Tiruneh

Features, Dimensions and Costs of Romanian "Neet" Youth in the European Context

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Abstract:

In the European Union, young people, according to Eurostat statistics, represent one-fifth of the total population. Although today modern Europe offers unprecedented opportunities for young people, they still face challenges (aggravated by the economic crisis) related to education and training systems, access to labor market, globalization and population aging.

If in 2012, in EU-27, were employed only 32.9% of the people younger than 25 years (4.5% lower compared to 2008 level), youth unemployment rate was of 22.8% in 2012, much higher than the value recorded in 2008 (15.8%).

Also, given the current conjecture, traditional linear trajectories for young people integration in society are increasingly being replaced by diversified and individualized trajectories. Youth inclusion in the labor market becomes more complex and it takes place at an older age, these young people frequently moving in and out of the labor market. Consequently, traditional approaches to understanding the vulnerable position of young people in the labour market have become less effective, as many of these transitions are not captured by conventional indicators of unemployment.

In this context, the concept of NEET has been introduced to characterize the size and structure of a vulnerable group of young people i.e. those young people who are not engaged in any form of employment, education or training.

At EU level, NEETs are considered to be one of the most problematic groups in the context of youth unemployment.

According to Eurostat, in 2012, in Europe, 7.5 million young people aged 15-24 were excluded from the labor market and the education system. This boosted the rate of NEET population, aged 15-24, from the 10.9% level in 2008 to 13.2% in 2012, with significant variations between Member States: less than 5% in the Netherlands, more than 18% in Bulgaria, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain. In Romania, under the impact of the financial crisis, the rate of NEET population increased from 11.6% in 2008 to 17.4% in 2011 and 16.8% in 2012.

This paper presents an analysis of the size and characteristics of the NEET population in Romania compared to other EU-27 Member States. It analyzes, for the pre-crisis period and under its impact, NEET groups' ethnic affiliation and education and gender structure.

The paper also presents an analysis of the economic costs, supported by various European countries, of NEET population non-integration.

Keywords: NEET youth, vulnerability, employment, unemployment

JEL Classification: E24, J21, J23, J64, J82

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The IER Seminar in Empirical Economics

The Institute of Economic Research of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (IER SAS) is intending to launch a regular monthly seminar in empirical economics to be held at the beginning of each month starting from June 2010. Despite the fact that IER is the largest research institute in Slovakia in the field of Economics, regular seminars with emphasis on methodological issues have been missing for years. Therefore, we believe this is time to reconfigure the status quo and follow the global trend.

Objective

The seminar should accomplish a number of significant issues. First, it will serve as a bridge between IER and other Slovak and international research institutions in terms of creating networks. Second, it serves as a forum to disseminate both theoretical models and empirical strategies so that IER employees can learn from a wide-range of issues and personalities.

Topics

All the papers to be presented should be economic modeling, econometrics or other forms of empirical research and should be supplemented with policy implications. A wide range of topics can be presented, which should include the following:

- Labor market,
- Economic development
- Economic growth
- International trade
- Monetary Economics
- Public Finance / Economics
- International Finance
- Globalization
- Energy and Environment
- Operations research
- Developing Countries
- Microeconomic issues
- Optimization Methods
- Regional economics

Language

The language of the seminar will be **English**. This should help to increase IER employees to improve their language command and skills of presentation in the most dominant research and business language in the world, i.e. English.

Organizational issues

The seminar will be co-chaired by Marek Radvanský and Menbere Workie.

Potential speakers should send their topics and abstracts to the chairs at least three weeks earlier than the date of the seminar and their PPT presentations at least two days prior to the date of the presentation. The abstracts will be uploaded on the IER website and disseminated to a wider public via e-mail. With the permission of the author, selected and modified papers from the presentations maybe recommended for publication in the Journal of Economics of IER. However, this should be more of an exception than a rule.