

**XVI EURO-LATIN STUDY NETWORK ON INTEGRATION AND TRADE (ELSNIT)
TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE**

ST. GALLEN, SWITZERLAND, OCTOBER 25-26, 2018

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Euro-Latin Network on Integration and Trade (ELSNIT) is now accepting submissions of papers examining the relationships between technology and trade along the economic, institutional, political science, and legal dimensions. In particular, submitted papers should address questions such as--but not limited to--the following:

- **Emerging Technologies and Evolving Cross-Border Business Models.** How do automation, robotics, and digitalization affect production, comparative advantage, and the location of economic activities across countries in different sectors? Are these emerging technologies (re-) shaping global value chains?
- **Emerging Technologies and International Trade.** What has been the impact of already established technologies such as mobile phones, the internet, and international electronic credit card payments on trade costs and international trade? What is and will be the impact of emerging technologies such as the internet of things, cloud computing-blockchain, 3D printing, artificial intelligence and learning, self-driving trucks and vessels on trade costs and international trade? Does big data make a difference? How important is online trade? Is e-commerce substitute or complement to traditional offline trade? How do online platforms such as Alibaba, MercadoLibre and eBay affect market organization and firms' trade, both in goods and services, and their overall performance? What are the channels and mechanisms through which these effects arise (e.g., reduction of information barriers facilitating matchmaking in general or specific aspects such as more visible firms' reputation)? To what extent can e-commerce promote the development of rural regions and improve standard of living therein? What kinds of impacts can it have in these areas? What are the relative effects of technology and trade on other economic outcomes (e.g., in labor markets)? Are these effects similar or different?
- **Emerging Technologies, New Trade Barriers, and New Policy Challenges.** How does the international regulatory environment look like (e.g., WTO's Information Technology Agreement, relevant provisions in RTAs, WCO's resolution on e-commerce)? How does trade policy look like in the digital age? How do prudential regulations and policies to combat money laundering and other illegal activities impact on e-commerce? To what extent do barriers such as those related to data flows (e.g., localization measures such as data servers having to be located within the country, data privacy, censorship, IPRs, cybersecurity) and e-commerce regulations (or lack thereof, including differences in the right to cancel and return purchases across countries) affect digital trade? Is the increasing number of small shipments associated with e-commerce putting pressure on customs and other border agencies and slowing down their clearance processes? What measures are these agencies implementing to counter these developments? Do *de minimis* values matter? What issues do new technologies and digital trade raise for taxation of corporate profits and in relationship to transfer pricing incentives linked to royalties associated with patents and IPRs?

Both theoretical and empirical contributions will be considered, but in all cases, priority will be given to papers identifying and shedding light on relevant policy questions such as those outlined above, including case studies of policies followed by national or international organizations, in particular. Furthermore, submission of papers that, in doing this, explicitly contrast successful and failed cases, comparing countries

within a certain a geographical area, is strongly encouraged. Important lessons are expected to be drawn from these contributions for Latin American and Caribbean countries.

The selected papers will be presented along invited contributions at the XVI Annual ELSNIT Conference that will be hosted by Universität St. Gallen in St. Gallen, **Switzerland, on October 25-26, 2018.**

A recognized expert in the field will comment upon each paper. All the papers and discussions will be circulated as working documents of the network. The authors are free to submit the papers to academic journals, stating that they were presented at the XVI Annual ELSNIT Conference.

Procedures for Submission of Papers

All researchers who are associated with a European or Latin American/Caribbean based academic or research institution are eligible to submit papers. While detailed abstracts will be accepted, there is a strong preference for nearly completed papers. Submission should be accompanied by a statement declaring the institutional affiliation of the authors. The papers should be written in English.

To register for the conference and submit a paper, please fill out this **FORM** and follow the instructions therein.

The deadline for submissions is **May 25, 2018**. The final selection of papers will be made by **June 10, 2018** by the network coordinators –Marise Cremona (EUI), Antoni Estevadeordal (IDB), Simon Evenett (University St. Gallen and CEPR), Holger Görg (University of Kiel and Kiel Institute for the World Economy), Bernard Hoekman (EUI and CEPR), Jacint Jordana (IBEI and UPF), Gianmarco Ottaviano (London School of Economics, University of Bologna, CEP, and CEPR), Gianluca Santoni (CEPII), and Christian Volpe Martincus (IDB)--together with Professors László Bruszt (Scuola Normale di Firenze) and Jacques Ziller (UP-FPS, Pavia) who are external advisors to the network. The final versions of the papers must be delivered by **September 20, 2018**.

The selected authors' and invited discussants' travel expenditures (economy class) and per diems to participate at the conference will be reimbursed by the IDB. Detailed guidelines explaining the logistics of the conference will be provided at a later stage. Please circulate this call for papers among your colleagues and other potentially interested parties.

Background Information about ELSNIT

The Euro-Latin Study Network on Integration and Trade (ELSNIT) is an initiative of the Inter-American Development Bank to create in Europe a forum on integration and trade issues relevant to Latin America and the Caribbean. The main objectives of the Network are to generate research, studies and debate on these issues, draw on a rich European experience and perspectives and increase interaction between European and Latin American researchers. The annual conference organized in the framework of the Network focuses on a particular issue each year.

The ELSNIT Network is coordinated by a Steering Committee that currently consists of the Centre d'Etudes Prospectives et d'Informations Internationales (CEPII), Paris, France; the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW), Kiel, Germany; the European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy; the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI), Barcelona, Spain; the University of St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland; the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), London, United Kingdom; the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), London, United Kingdom; and the IDB (through the Integration and Trade Sector, INTAL, and the Office in Europe).