

**FLAVIO HAFNER**

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[flavio.hafner@upf.edu](mailto:flavio.hafner@upf.edu)

**UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA**

Placement Director:

Filippo Ippolito

[FILIPPO.IPPOLITO@UPF.EDU](mailto:FILIPPO.IPPOLITO@UPF.EDU)

+34-93-542-2578

Graduate Coordinator: Marta Araque

[MARTA.ARAQUE@UPF.EDU](mailto:MARTA.ARAQUE@UPF.EDU)

+34-93-542-2226

**Office Contact Information**

Carrer Ramón Trías Fargas 25-27  
Barcelona, 08005  
Mobile: +34-72-271-1790

**Personal Information**

Citizenship: Swiss

**Undergraduate Studies**

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, **University of St. Gallen** (Switzerland), 2013

**Graduate Studies**

PhD Candidate in Economics, **Universitat Pompeu Fabra**, Barcelona, Spain, 2015 to present

Thesis Title: "Essays in Labor Economics"

Expected Completion Date: July 2020

M.Res in Economics, **Universitat Pompeu Fabra**, Barcelona, Spain, 2015

M.Sc in Economics, **Barcelona GSE**, Barcelona, Spain, 2014

**References:**

Professor Ruben Enikolopov

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Phone (Barcelona): +34-93-542-2886

Phone (Moscow): +7-(495)-956-95-08

Email: [ruben.enikolopov@upf.edu](mailto:ruben.enikolopov@upf.edu)

Professor Joan Monràs

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Phone: +34-93-542-1681

Email: [jm3364@gmail.com](mailto:jm3364@gmail.com)

Professor Albrecht Glitz

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Phone: + 34-93-542-1746

Email: [albrecht.glitz@upf.edu](mailto:albrecht.glitz@upf.edu)

**Teaching and Research Fields**

Primary field: Labor Economics

Secondary fields: Urban Economics, Applied Microeconomics

### **Teaching Experience**

Fall, 2016	<i>Research Methods (PhD)</i> , TA for Prof. Hogarth <i>Human Resources I</i> , TA for Prof. Barrenechea (in Spanish)
Fall, 2015	<i>Research Methods (PhD)</i> , TA for Prof. Hogarth <i>Introduction to Microeconomics</i> , TA for Prof. León (in Spanish) <i>Data Analysis</i> , TA for Prof. García-Fontes (in Spanish)
Winter, 2015	<i>Introduction to Game Theory</i> , TA for Prof. Calsamiglia <i>Microeconomics II (Graduate)</i> , TA for Prof. de Martí
Fall, 2014	<i>Data Analysis</i> , UPF, TA for Prof. García-Fontes (in Spanish) <i>Introduction to Microeconomics</i> , TA for Prof. León (in Spanish)

### **Research Experience and Other Employment**

2017	Visiting PhD student, University College London, London, UK
2013	Citi Private Bank, Geneva, Summer Analyst
2012	UBS, Zurich, Intern in Economic Research

### **Professional Activities**

#### *Conferences*

2019	GEP/CEPR Postgraduate Conference Nottingham, Munich Young Economists Meeting, European Association of Labor Economists (EALE)
2018	Mannheim Conference on Migration, Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics

### **Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships**

2018-2020	Predoc Fellowship, Spanish Ministry of Education
2017	DocMobility Fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation
2014-2016	UPF Teaching Assistant Scholarship

### **Languages**

Human	German (native), English, French, Spanish
Computer	R, Python, Stata, Bash

### **Research Papers**

#### *“Labor Market Competition, Wages and Worker Mobility” ([Job Market Paper](#))*

Using a quasi-experiment I study the effects of removing barriers to worker mobility. In 1998 French border-commuters gained access to the Swiss labor market where nominal wages were twice as high. The labor market integration increased the number of -- primarily highly skilled -- commuters from France to Switzerland. I study the effect of the integration on French labor markets using a difference-in-differences research design. For this, I compare treated labor markets in the French border region with a matched control group of labor markets in other parts of France.

The integration increases overall wages and employment in France, but disproportionately so for low-skill workers. This is despite the fact that they were seemingly less affected by the policy change.

A model of monopsonistic competition can explain this result. When it becomes easier to work in Switzerland, workers' outside options increase and workers find more employers close by than before. Intuitively, the inverse labor supply curve to individual French firms shifts inward and becomes more elastic at the same time. This change increases wages and employment for workers with initially more inelastic supply curves, which empirically are the less mobile low skilled workers. Hence, this paper suggests that enhancing labor mobility may induce pro-competitive effects that reduce firms' market

power and result in welfare gains to labor.

### **Research in Progress**

*“Firm-level Adjustment to Labor Market Competition”*

*“Is the labor supply curve to individual firms endogenous to market structure? Evidence from mass layoffs”*