Abstract:
This paper assesses the effect of the immigration on the production structure in a selection of European countries in 2001-2009 with a task-based approach. The inflow of immigrants represents an increase in the relative supply of manual-physical (or simple) tasks, hence favoring simple-task intensive sectors. We use a new OECD dataset, PIAAC, to calculate the index of simple-task intensity at the country-industry level. The analysis confirms that the increase in migration stocks caused a positive impact on the value added of sectors that use more intensively simple tasks. These effects are more intense when considering countries as Italy and Spain characterized by a recent, rapid and intense inflow of migrants. Endogeneity issues are discussed and instruments based on a gravity approach are used in estimation.

Giuseppe De Arcangelis is Professor of Economics at Sapienza University of Rome in the Department of Social Science and Economics as of November 2005. He is currently director of the undergraduate and MA studies in Economics in the Faculty of Political Science, Sociology, Communication (Area Didattica "Economia e Istituzioni") and has been director of the Sapienza Research Center for International Economics (CIDEI) in 2007-10. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Michigan (1996) with the dissertation Essays in Managed Exchange Rates. Hired by the Bank of Italy in 1988, he entered the Faculty of Economics at Sapienza University in 1990, where he taught sections of microeconomics, macroeconomics, international economics and econometrics, and joined the Sapienza Research Center for International Economics (CIDEI) in 1993. He moved to the University of Bari (Department of Economics) in 1998 as Associate Professor, where he taught macroeconomics, international economics and econometrics until 2005. He has been a consultant for the European Central Bank, the Bank for International Settlements, the Italian Treasury and other Italian institutions. Giuseppe De Arcangelis has been a visiting scholar at the University of Lille 1, “La Sorbonne” in Paris and at the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan.

Main current research areas: International Trade (factors mobility, migration), International Macroeconomics (international transmission of business cycles, fiscal policy in OECD countries, exchange rate regimes) and Time-Series Econometrics (VAR econometrics).