Product market regulations and the functioning in a monetary union

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Plan of the presentation

- Motivation and objectives
- Product market regulations
- Methodological issues
- Results
- Case study: Poland

Motivation and objectives

- Lessons from the global financial crisis and the eurozone crisis: structural weaknesses in economic growth models of some member states
- Faster pace of the real convergence as a result of structural reforms implementation
- Product market reforms foster competition and competitiveness
- Euro adoption: timing undefined, preparations beneficial per se, how to handle asymmetric shocks?

- OECD Indicators of Product Market Regulation (PMR) for 34 countries (economy-wide and sectoral):
 - State control of business enterprises
 - Legal and administrative barriers to entrepreneurship
 - Barriers to international trade and investment



Barriers to entrepreneurship



Source: PMR database (OECD)

- Product market integration contributes to smoother shock adjustments (Mongelli, 2008)
- Improved product market regulations result in GDP growth (OECD, 2014)
- Product market reforms reduce structural divergence within monetary union through gains in productivity and increases in industrial specialization (Lane, Conway)

- Cross-country differences in income are mostly caused by TFP differences (Haltiwanger et al.)
- Heterogeneity in firm-level productivity performance may imply misallocation of resources (Scarapetta et al.)
- Higher productivity dispersions imply also less favourable innovation environment what in turn leads to technological differences across countries (Peters).

Product market reforms:

- Narrow perspective:
 - Internal (EU) market integration
 - EU competition policy
 - National regulations in the sectors of intermediate goods
 - Openess of the economy

Wider concept:

- Business environment
- Barriers to entrepreneurship
- Knowledge-based skills and capital
- State ownership*

The effect of improved PMR on GDP in 2030



Source: OECD Economic Outlook 2014

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- Demand spillovers
- Competitiveness effects
- International financial flows
- Knowledge spillovers



Source: Varga and Veld (2014)

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Source: Varga and Veld (2014)

- Product market reforms foster competition which results in higher productivity gained through:
 - <u>allocative</u> (reallocation of resources),
 - productive (improvement in the utilisation of the production factors),
 - dynamic efficiency (innovation and technology improvement).

Since policy and institutional settings in product and labour market may influence performance of existing firms as well as creation or failure of units it is extremely important to find out what drives heterogeneity of firms.

Methodological issues

- Data: Amadeus database for DEU, FRA, PRT, ITA, ESP, (BEL)
- Period: 2002-2011
- > TFP changes as a result of technology or managerial effectiveness
 - But also as the efficiency of resources allocation across establishments
- Decomposition by Olley and Pakes (1996)
 - Mean of the firm-level productivities (unweighted productivity)
 - Covariance between the individual productivities and the individual share in the market (OP-term): the higher \rightarrow the better
- Dynamic decomposition by Melitz and Polanec (2014)
 - Change in market shares between surviving companies
 - Growth in the surviving companies
 - The impact of net entry

- Manufacturing and construction sectors stand out as ones with the most efficient allocation of resources.
- On the other extreme, in highly regulated industries clear misallocation can be seen.

Allocative efficiency across sectors



- DE has the highest unweighted productivity among EA countries, followed by FR and Italy, while ES and, especially, PT exhibit a significant gap in unweighted productivity.
- ES and PT were able to compensate lower average productivity by relatively more efficient allocation.
- IT displays moderate values of AE-index in all analysed sectors

100 000 20% 18% 90,000 80 000 16% 70 000 14% 60,000 12% 50 000 10% 40 000 30 000 20,000 10 000 DEU FRA ESE PRT unweighted productivity (LHS) OP covariance term (LHS) AE-index (BHS)

Manufacturing firms sized 20+

- These results are broadly consistent with the ones for firms sized 20+
- The differences may suggest:
 - the smallest firms in FR are more productive than their
 DE counterparts but they still pull the resources away from the bigger, far more productive manufacturing companies.
 - the Southern EA members are dominated by the very small and unproductive enterprises.

Manufacturing firms sized 20+



OP covariance term (LHS)

AE-index (RHS)

unweighted productivity (LHS)

(imputed data for smaller firms)

- Summary of static decomposition
 - significant misallocation and productivity problems in the EA economies
 - DE and FR exhibit the lowest efficiency of allocation, especially in services (despite having much higher average firm productivity).
 - ES and PT firms manage the available resources better but are not productive enough to increase their levels fast enough
 - IT is an intermediate case: significant unweighted productivity gap towards DE and FR but slightly better allocation
 - in all countries, non-manufacturing sectors had far lower (and often negative) allocative efficiency than manufacturing sector

- Interpretation for the South
 - ▶ problems in the small or the least productive firms sized 20+ → problems for the micro-firms.
 - ► closing a half of the gap in allocative efficiency towards DE → increase in the aggregate productivity in FR manufacturing by 15%.
 - closing only half of the gap in unweighted productivity towards FR → IT and ES achieve the FR level of aggregate productivity (at the current level of allocative efficiency).

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Business structure and financial ratios

	Germany	France	Italy	Spain
Dependence on external finance	high	low	high	low
Solvency	high	high	low	high
Interest cover	high	very high	low	moderate
Liquidity	very high	high	very high	Low
Credit/collection period	short	moderate	long	long
Profitability	high	high	low	moderate
Productivity	high	moderate	moderate	low
Dispersion of productivity	high	low	moderate	high

- Comparison of medain employment of the 25% most productive companies relative to the rest
 - German companies oversized in all sectors
 - Apart from DE, the majority of manufacturing companies too small to take advantage of the economy of scale
 - ES and IT: undersized manufacturing firms
 - Utilities and B2B: undercapitalised and oversized companies with the lowest allocative efficiency

- Productivity growth decomposition
 - Limited impact of the net entry, often negative
 - Changes in unweighted productivity and reallocation play more important role

What drove productivity before the crisis and after 2008

	Before the crisis		After 2008	
	Unweighted productivity	Reallocation process	Unweighted productivity	Reallocation process
Low-tech	+	+	-	+
Medium-low tech	-	-	-	-
Medium-high	+	+	-	+
High-tech	+	+	-	+
B2B	+	+	+ \	+ \
IT	+	+	+ 🗸	+ 🗸

- The majority of sectors improved the allocative efficiency by about 5 -10 p.p.
- The largest improvements in allocative efficiency were reported in the sectors with the initially worse allocation

Entrants vs. Survivors

- Entrants are smaller in terms of
 - employment by 1/3
 - total assets by 2/3 in IT and 1/3 in DE
- Entrants are in a worse financial condition, especially in IT and ES
- Entrants are less productive
 - by 1/4 in IT manufacturing,
 - I/3 in IT services
 - in DE and FR the difference equals to 4-8%
- Larger increase in labour productivity in case of entrants
- Larger increase in employment in case of entrants

The entrants were (if at all) only slightly less productive than incumbents, despite their small size...



- Exiters vs. Survivors (median characteristics)
 - Exiters less productive by 5-20%
 - Exiters smaller in terms of employment, turnover, assets and capital-intensity
 - Exiters in a worse financial condition
 - Selection harsher in manufacturing than services
 - Exiters differed from survivors the most in ES and IT, the least in FR



...but market selection seemed to depend rather on the size rather than the productivity, especially in ESP and PRT





PMR: sectoral indicators (2013)

- PMR network services: only EE performs worse
- > PMR retail: the last position in the region
- PMR professional services: the last position in the region
 The indicator is expected to improve due to the deregulation process
- Conclusion: much space for improvement

TFP decomposition 2005-2013



Source: Project on export competitiveness

- In 2005-2013 TFP increased on average by 5% per annum
- Market mechanisms work well almost half of the TFP growth was a result of resources reallocation (between-firm effect), one of the highest in the EU in manufacturing

 \rightarrow positive sign for the future growth and convergence pace

- Net effect of entrants and exiters is barely observable but slightly positive
- TFP slightly contributes to export performance (10%:1%)
- Exporters are 12% more productive than non-exporters
- Exporters are 3 times larger than non-exporters
- Exporters pay 20% higher wages than non-exporters

How do Polish exporting firms compare?

Criterion	Comparators
Productivity premia	UK, DE, IT
Wage premia*	UK, BE
Size ratio	DE, FR, IT

* wage premia in DE, IT and FR are lower (by resp. 2, 7, 9%)

Source: Project on export competitiveness

How to improve allocative efficiency \rightarrow TFP

	OECD average	Poland
Resolving insolvency (duration and cost)	1.7 years, 8.8 %	3 years, 15%
Setting up a company	9.2 days (EE: 18 minutes!)	30 days
Registering property	24 days	33 days
Enforcing contracts	539.5 days	685 days
Getting electricity	76.8 days	161 days

Source: Doing Business 2015

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To coordinate or not to coordinate reforms?

	No coordination	Joint implementation
Labour productivity in 5ys	- 1.5%	- 1.5%
Labour productivity in 20ys	- 0.5%	0.1%
GDP growth in 5ys	3%	3%
GDP growth in 20ys	13%	15%

Source: Varga and Veld (2014)

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- Not only entry and exit regulations are crucial
- Firm size, productivity, innovation and efficiency of the intermediate sectors contribute positively to the export performance
 - Reduction of barriers to trade, R&D, innovations, firm growing
 - ▶ decrease in innovation costs by $1\% \rightarrow 1.2\%$ increase in firm growth
 - ▶ 1% drop in trade costs \rightarrow firm size growth by 0.6%
- Efficient upstream sectors increase efficiency of downstream sectors
 - Better regulation of network services

- Adjustment mechanisms: labour, wages, capital
 - Size of the companies changes in employment, innovations
 - Firing costs
 - Flexible working hours
 - Bargaining/EPL
 - Wage indexation
 - Licenced professions
 - Labour flexibility between sectors towards tradable sectors

Thank you for your attention!

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