LABOR ECONOMICS II S2019: **GUIDELINES ON ASSIGNMENTS and INFORMATION ABOUT THE MINI-CONFERENCE**

You are expected to form groups of two to three students and write an assignment paper of about 10-12 pages length, see the guidelines on the number of pages wrt number of authors. Given that we are an international class, please try to form a diverse group of students, i.e. group of two or three nationalities, depending on the size of the group.

Guidelines: two authors: 9-10 pages; 3 authors 12-14 PAGES; international teams.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Fri 1.2. 2019, 11 am	*Deadline for a group formation and choice of topic of the student assignment*
Tue 18.3.2019, 10 am	*Deadline for a draft-assignment submission (by email to the teacher); you have about 6 weeks to write the draft assignment.*
Thu 20.3. 2019	**Mini-conference**
Tue 15.4.2019	*FINAL ASSIGNMENTS: Deadline for re-submission of assignments; there is around 4 weeks to revise and resubmit your paper with comments from the mini-conference (by email to the teacher).*

ABOUT ASSIGNMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS

You are expected to write a short-paper on chosen topic within the labor economics. The paper should contain all parts typical in a research and policy paper: Introduction with motivation, literature review, hypothesis development, data description including relevant descriptive evidence and statistics, (if possible) empirical analyses and conclusions including advice to policy makers (based on the findings of your literature review and your descriptive and empirical analyses part. As this is very international class, we would like you to create international teams. You are also welcome to write about experiences of your countries on a given topic, or exploit your group's diversity and write cross-country comparisons of chosen topics, but you may also write about countries of your choice/all available data.

Please send us the topic that you choose and an information about your team for approval (Mariola.pytlikova@cerge-ei.cz) ASAP. The very final deadline for the choice of topic is Friday February 1st, 2019, 11 am.

Later on, you will get a detailed information about our mini-conference, at which you will present your papers and will get comments. After the mini-conference you are welcomed to incorporate the comments from your presentation (in case you find them useful and relevant) to the final version of your assignment. Based on the number of papers, we will schedule our mini conference (a preliminary date for the conference is Thursday 20.3.2019, time TBA). The FINAL assignments should be handed-in by 15.4.2019 (again by email).

We would preferably want you to come up with ideas for papers yourselves. You are welcome to send us your ideas and discuss them with me or Daniel anytime. But, to help you a bit, we have listed a couple of suggestions for possible topics related to lectures we went through during the Labor Econ I and II course. Please note that the suggested topics are rather wide and you shall be more specific and focused in your papers.

First of all, we would like to suggest a few datasets that you may use for your assignment:

DATA sources:

1. PIACC data (micro data) – the link below provides the rich OECD Report - descriptive analysis based on PIACC data http://www.oecd.org/skills/piaac/webpackages.htm, Links to data & codebooks & Questionnaires: **International code-book of variables** http://www.oecd.org/site/piaac/International%20Codebook_PIAAC%20Public-use%20File%20(PUF)%20Variables%20and%20Values.xlsx and I**nternational Master questionnaire:** http://www.oecd.org/site/piaac/BQ_MASTER.HTM all linked from here http://www.oecd.org/site/piaac/publicdataandanalysis.htm

2. International migration dataset by Pytlikova (2011), used in Adsera and Pytlikova, EJ 2015 (macro data)

3. IAB Brain Drain Data (macro) http://www.iab.de/en/daten/iab-brain-drain-data.aspx

4. OECD DIOC-E Database on Immigrants (info on 100 destination countries and more than 200 countries of origin), information on demographic characteristics (age and gender), duration of stay, labour market outcomes (labour market status, occupations, sectors of activity), fields of study, educational attainment and the place of birth in OECD *and* non-OECD Countries

5. World Bank WDI (macro data) and/or OECD Source Stats (macro data)

6. EBRD Life in Transition Survey (micro data for years 2006, 2010, 2016)

Some ideas for TOPICS:

1. *Utilizing PIAAC data, one could think about following (and many other)*
   - Intergenerational mobility (educational, etc)
   - Position of migrants (in case of countries with sufficient number of obs in the data)
   - Gender differences
   - Impact of expanding tertiary education during last 50 years
   - Educational attainment and skills (tested)
   - Returns to skills and education
   - Formation of households and division of labor within households
   - (Mis)match of educational attainment and field of education with occupation / job content
   - IT skills and IT expansion shaping the labour markets
   - General vs. specific (vocational) education and labor market performance
   - Labor supply (classical, part-time, entrepreneurship)
   - Job mobility and flexibility
   - Maternity and labor market

2. *International migration using the international migration data (Pytlikova, 2011)*
   - Determinants of international migration
   - EU enlargements and migration from the new EU countries - effects of enlargements on migration
   - EU enlargements and migration from the new EU countries - consequences of migration from the new EU countries on destination and/or source countries;
   - The impact of immigration and/or ethnic diversity– choose some of the possible outcomes: impact on economy - GDP, wages, employment, innovation, productivity, trade, FDI, …
   - Impacts of emigration on sending economies

3. *Discrimination and integration using LITS data*
   - Immigrants vs Natives and their labour market outcomes
   - Effects of emigration on families left behind
   - Gender gapes in wages and labor force participation, gender norms in transition countries