

Propositions

attached to the thesis

Unemployment, Wages, and the Impact of Active Labour Market Policies in a Regional Perspective

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I.

The existence of a negative relationship between regional unemployment and individual real wages can be explained by an efficiency model through the fact that firms have to pay wages that are higher than the individual utility of unemployment.

(Chapter 2 of this thesis)

II.

Regional labour market policies should be based on functional regions defined by relevant labour markets, and not based on administrative regions.

(Chapter 3 of this thesis)

III.

There is no universal wage unemployment elasticity of -0.1 independent of time, structure of the labour force, and institutional background as the wage curve approach suggests.

(Chapter 5 of this thesis)

IV.

The performance difference of regional employment offices can be measured by quantitative indicators and based on policy targets, but for an overall evaluation, qualitative factors and implementation processes also have to be taken into account.

(Chapter 7 of this thesis)

V.

Active labour market policies have a significant impact on the wage curve. In the short term they enforce the wage pressure and reduce unemployment.

(Chapter 8 of this thesis)

VI.

The problems to integrate young people into the labour market rise with the degree of employment protection.

VII.

The demographic problems in Europe cannot be solved by migration.

VIII.

Countries without transitional measures for migration within the enlargement process of the EU get the high qualified willing to migrate.

IX.

The unemployment rate, like other cross section indicators, is not the appropriate figure to describe the actual problems in the labour market.

X.

Contracting-out of employment services leads to creaming and has not had the expected positive results of increased effectiveness in placement.

XI.

Ich habe einen Gedanken gefunden, der aber mein bester Gedanke ist. Er heisst: Von der Wahrheit ist das Gegenteil ebenso wahr!

(I have found a thought which is my best thought. It is: From the truth, the opposite is also true!)

Hermann Hesse