



Squaring Higher Wages and Competitiveness

September 2 & 3, 2015
Anadolu Hotel of Downtown Ankara, Turkey

Agenda

September 2, 2015

- 09:30 – 10:00 Registration
- 10:00 – 10:30 Welcome Address
- 10:30 – 12:15 **Session I: Global Wage Debates and Competitiveness**

“The answer [to restoring competitiveness] is as simple to say as it is difficult to do – follow Germany’s example and keep wages low” (Mickey Levy, Blenheim Capital Management, [VoxEU column](#)). Is wage moderation effective in restoring competitiveness? Are there strategies for raising both wages and competitiveness or is a trade-off inevitable? What is the developing country experience?

Moderator: Prakash Loungani

Co-Chair, Jobs & Growth Working Group
International Monetary Fund Research Department

Catherine L. Mann

Chief Economist
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Subir Gokarn

Director of Research, Brookings India
Former Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India

International Labour Organization (TBC)

- 12:15 – 13:15 Lunch
(served in the Söğütözü A'la Carte Restaurant, Anadolu Hotel)

Special thanks to:



13:15 – 15:00

Session II: Trade and Wages

The impact of trade on wages is one of the most analyzed and most controversial topics in economics ([Krugman, 2008](#)). What does recent evidence show? The debate is heating up about the likely wage and employment effects of Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)—a proposed new regional trade agreement. This session will explore the nexus of trade and wages and how the TPP could affect wages and employment in signatory countries.

Moderator: Sabina Dewan

President & Executive Director
JustJobs Network

Edward Gresser

Head of Research
Office of the United States Trade Representative

Nguyen Thang

President
Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences

John Evans

Chief Economist, International Trade Union Confederation
General Secretary of the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD

15:00 – 15:30

Coffee Break

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15:30 – 17:30

Session III: Global Minimum Wage Debates

[“Raising the minimum wage is so hot right now”](#) (Dylan Matthews, Washington Post). How should minimum wages be set? Does one minimum wage fit all? The sessions will review the experience of several countries, based in part on the JustJobs Network’s joint report: *Global Wage Debates: Politics or Economics?*

Moderator: **Knut Panknin**
Programme Officer, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Fellow, JustJobs Network

Presentation: **Prakash Loungani**
Co-Chair, Jobs & Growth Working Group
International Monetary Fund Research Department

Interventions: **Gregory Randolph**
Deputy Director
JustJobs Network

Carl Lin/Li Shi
Professors, Beijing Normal University
Professor, Bucknell University (Carl Lin)

Aalia Cassim
Senior Researcher
Development Policy Research Unit, University of Cape Town

Fabio Tatei
Faculty of Economics, Business and Accounting
University of São Paulo

Yusuf Soner Baskaya
General Manager
Communications and Foreign Relations Department
Central Bank of Turkey

17:30 – 18:00

Closing **Michael Ettliger**
University of New Hampshire
Founding Director, Carsey School of Public Policy

18:00 – 20:00

Reception

September 3, 2015

09:30 – 11:30

JustJobs Network Member Meeting (*invitation only*)

13:00 – 15:00

Special Luncheon with **German Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Andrea Nahles** (*invitation only*)

Special thanks to:



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