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Essays on entrepreneurship, worker mobility and firm performance

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STELLINGEN

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Essays on Entrepreneurship, Worker Mobility and Firm Performance

van Marzieh Abolhassani

1. Foreign direct investment reduces market concentration in the target industry, which subsequently is associated with higher rates of new firm creation in the same industry. (Chapter 2)
2. The wage premium paid by foreign firms in combination with positive wage spillovers to domestic firms culminate in higher average wages at the industry level. (Chapter 2)
3. Foreign direct investment reduces entrepreneurship, especially in the short run but even in the longer run. (Chapter 2)
4. Domestic firms that hired new workers from multinationals experience a productivity gain one year after hiring. The productivity gain reflects the level of education and skills of the newly hired employees. (Chapter 3)
5. Hiring from more productive firms results in productivity gains. Worker mobility within the same sector is associated with more diffusion of knowledge and skills which generate productivity gains, compared to worker mobility across sectors. (Chapter 4)
6. Chinese firms with a poor financial performance benefit from government control, which supports the 'supporting hand' theory of the government. (Chapter 5)
7. In China, government-controlled firms underperformed compared to non-government-controlled firms. Both central and local government control has negative effects on the performance of Chinese listed firms ('grabbing hand' theory). (Chapter 5)
8. Globalization and trade liberalization were supposed to make us all better off through the mechanism of trickle-down economics. What we seemed to be seeing instead was trickle-up economics, accompanied by a destruction of democratic politics, as we moved ever closer to a system of 'one dollar, one vote' as opposed to 'one person, one vote.' (Joseph Stiglitz)
9. The first lesson of economics is scarcity: there is never enough of anything to fully satisfy all those who want it. The first lesson of politics is to disregard the first lesson of economics. (Thomas Sowell)
10. If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward. (Martin Luther King Jr)
11. Rule number 1: there is no rule! Everything is created by us!
12. What other people think of you is none of your business.