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Global trade in services, jobs, and incomes

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Global Trade in Services, Jobs, and Incomes

Timon Bohn

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university of
 groningen

Global Trade in Services, Jobs, and Incomes

PhD thesis

to obtain the degree of PhD at the
University of Groningen
on the authority of the
Rector Magnificus Prof. C. Wijmenga
and in accordance with
the decision by the College of Deans.

This thesis will be defended in public on

Thursday 19 December 2019 at 12:45 hours

by

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It might have seemed inevitable that I would write a dissertation. After all, I always valued my education and my dad and both of my grandfathers, Dr. Alfred Bittel and Dr. Lothar Bohn, have doctoral degrees. Yet, I was quite unsure whether this was also my path - until I arrived in Groningen in 2012 as part of a double master's degree program. I quickly grew excited about the research topics emphasized here involving global value chains and input-output analysis. They complemented well my prior interest and internships in the areas of trade and MNEs. So, when the opportunity for a PhD presented itself, I knew this is what I wanted to do.

As I soon found out, turning a passion for the field into a dissertation is a completely different matter. Achieving this goal would not have been possible without the full support of my supervisors Erik Dietzenbacher and Steven Brakman. I greatly value Steven's expertise in international trade, and I admire his perceptive and measured way of thinking in all situations - all the way to navigating the tricky process of publishing a paper. Erik always got the most out of me, urging me to aim for high-quality papers that were worthy to submit to top journals and of interest to a broad audience. Erik made sure everyone was on the same page and that my PhD was progressing smoothly. I am extremely grateful to Erik and Steven for their excellent supervision and guidance. I thank you both for always displaying confidence in me.

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Timon

Groningen, November 2019

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