Human Capital, Technological Progress and Technology Diffusion across Europe: Education Matters

The paper examines the effect of human capital on the total factor productivity (TFP) growth across Europe. Using the modified Nelson-Phelps framework, we estimate regressions based on panel data of five-year average annual TFP growth rates from 1950 to 2010. Estimation results obtained from fixed effects, quasi-maximum likelihood, generalized method of moments and least square dummy variable estimators show the positive and statistically significant effects of human capital on both technological progress and technology diffusion. Moreover, these results support convergence in growth rates among the core, peripheral and potential member states of the European Union (EU).

About the presenter
Tinatin Akhvlediani (originally from Georgia) is a PhD student and a teaching assistant at the University of Warsaw. After completing her research visit at Indiana University Bloomington, she is recently visiting University of Vienna and The Vienna Institute for International Studies (wiiw). Tinatin specializes on international trade and economic growth from perspectives of technological progress. She was recently awarded by the three-year research grant from the National Center of Science of Poland to lead research project: ICT and Trade Performances of Central and Eastern European Countries.