



## **Public Lecture Series Spring 2016**

### **Income, Population and Migration Flows in the 21st Century**

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**Thursday, 26 May 2016**

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de Louvain**

**Discussant: Prof. Martina Viarengo, Department of Economics /  
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18:15 – 19:45 h, University of Geneva, Unimail, Bd du Pont-d'Arve 40, Room M R060

#### **Abstract**

Since World War II, immigration rates have drastically increased in high-income countries, and the control of immigration has become a major policy issue. I provide worldwide projections of international migration flows for the 21st century. To do so, I develop and parameterize a dynamic, stylized model of the world economy that accounts for the complex interactions between population growth, the evolution of educational attainment, income disparities, and migration flows. My baseline scenario extrapolates the historical trends in TFP (total factor productivity) disparities and matches the “high-fertility” population prospects of the United Nations. Under this scenario, the demographic

share of Africa and the income gap between Africa and high-income countries will drastically increase over the 21st century. At constant immigration policy, I predict that immigration rates will remain stable in most high-income countries, except in the fifteen Member States of the European Union (EU15), where the average proportion of immigrants will rise from 7.5 to 17.2 percent. Then I assess the sensitivity of our projections to changes in migration policies in other regions, TFP disparities, fertility and education policies in developing countries. The rise in the European migration pressure could be alleviated if Africa economically takes off or restrains its population growth rates. However, the qualitative predictions for future migration flows hold in all the scenarios.

### Curriculum Vitae

Frédéric Docquier is Research Associate at the National Fund for Economic Research and Professor of Economics at the Université Catholique de Louvain. He holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Aix-Marseille II. His research interests are in quantitative development theory, economic growth and international migration. He has been acting as a ST Consultant for the World Bank since 2004 and served as Research Director of the Institute de recherches économiques et sociales (IRES) at UCLouvain between 2008 and 2012. He edited four books and published articles in the *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of Economic Literature*, *Economic Journal*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, *Journal of Economic Growth* and many others.

### Selected Publications

- E. Artuc, F. Docquier, C. Ozden, Ch. Parsons. “A Global Assessment of Human Capital Mobility: The Role of Non-OECD Destinations”, *World Development* (2015), 65, 6–26.
- F. Docquier, J. Machado, K. Sekkat. “Efficiency Gains from Liberalizing Labor Mobility”, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics* (2015), 117 (2), 303–346.
- F. Docquier, C. Ozden, G. Peri. “The Labor Market Impact of Immigration and Emigration in OECD Countries”, *Economic Journal* (2014), 124 (579), 1106–1145.
- F. Docquier, H. Rapoport. “Globalization, Brain Drain and Development”, *Journal of Economic Literature* (2012), 50 (3), 681–730.
- D. de la Croix, F. Docquier. “Do Brain Drain and Poverty Result from Coordination Failures?”, *Journal of Economic Growth* (2012), 17 (1), 1–26.
- M. Beine, F. Docquier, C. Ozden. “Diasporas”, *Journal of Development Economics* 95 (1) (2011), 30–41.
- F. Docquier, O. Faye, P. Pestieau. “Is Migration a Good Substitute for Education Subsidies?”, *Journal of Development Economics* 86 (2008), 263–276.
- M. Beine, F. Docquier, H. Rapoport. “Brain Drain and Human Capital Formation in Developing Countries: Winners and Losers”, *Economic Journal* 118 (2008), 631–652.
- F. Docquier, O. Paddison, P. Pestieau. “Optimal Accumulation in an Endogenous Growth Setting with Human Capital”, *Journal of Economic Theory* 134 (2006), 361–378.
- F. Docquier, H. Rapoport, In J. Mercier-Ythier et S.C. Kolm (eds). *The Economics of Migrants’ Remittances – Handbook on the Economics of Reciprocity, Giving and Altruism*, Handbook Series edited by K. Arrow and M. Intriligator, Elsevier-North Holland (2006).