

Contributors

Cecilia Albert is Professor of Economics at the University of Alcalá (Madrid). Her research has mainly focused on the analysis of the economics of education, human capital and labour market. Her PhD was awarded the premium National Education Research. She has recently published a book with Luis Toharia and others about the Spanish labour market as a part of the series of Labour Market Studies edited by the EC, and has articles on the Spanish labour market in a number of journals.

Florence Audier is a French economist. She belongs to the MATISSE-University Panthéon-Sorbonne/CNRS). She has published several articles concerning education and vocational training, as well as youth integration into the labour market.

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Arie Gelderblom is a senior staff member of SEOR (Social Economic Research Institute, Rotterdam), which is linked to the Erasmus University Rotterdam. In a former job he worked for the Netherlands Economic Institute (NEI). His background is in economics. He is a specialist in the economics of training and education. For part of the time he is also working for the Institute of Labour Market Policy which concentrates on

the effects of ICT (information and communication technologies) on the labour market, training and education.

Olivier Giraud gained his PhD in Political Science in 1968, and has been engaged at different research centres focusing on the study of socio-economic regulations (WZB, Berlin; Matisse–CNRS; Paris). He is working for the CNRS at the CURAP (Université d'Amiens, France). As a policy analyst, he specializes in the field of training and employment.

Virginia Hernanz is Assistant Lecturer in Economics in the University of Alcalá, as well as a research assistant at FEDEA (Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada). She is interested in labour market transitions, human capital, employment policies and youth labour markets. She is currently working on segmentation in the Spanish labour market and on the links between temporary jobs and segmentation. She has been a Visiting Fellow in the European Work and Employment Research Centre at UMIST (University of Manchester Institute of Technology) and the WZB (Social Science Center Berlin), among other centres.

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Ruurd Kunnen is a sociologist. He is director/proprietor of swob De Kade, a small private institute for social scientific research. In former jobs he worked for OSA (Organization for Strategic Labour Market Research) and NEI. His specialities are labour and the labour market in the knowledge society.

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Philip J. O'Connell is a Senior Research Officer at the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) in Dublin. His recent publications include *Working Schemes? Active Labour Market Policy in Ireland* (Ashgate, 1997) (with Frances McGinnity), and he is joint editor of *Labour Market Studies: Ireland* (European Commission, 1996) and of *Astonishing Success: Economic Growth and the Labour Market in Ireland*, (ILO, 1999). He is on the editorial boards of *Work, Employment and Society*, *The Journal of Youth Studies* and *The Irish Journal of Sociology*.

William Praat was a senior staff member of OSA (Organization for Strategic Labour Market Research). In that framework, he was involved in issues such as labour demand-side economics, social security, retirement, pensions, education and training. He has an econometric background. At the present time he is working as a technical consultant for Cap Gemini Ernst & Young.

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Luis Toharia is Professor of Economics at the University of Alcalá (Madrid). He has published his research on various aspects of the labour market in Spain, including the measurement of employment and unemployment, the causes and consequences of unemployment, the nature of employment growth and the rise of fixed-term and part-time employment, the cost of dismissals, the unemployment benefit system and active labour market policies. He directed the study on the labour market in Spain published by the European Commission (1997). He has acted on several

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Marian de Voogd-Hamelink is working as a data analyst at the Organization for Strategic Labour Market Research (OSA) in Tilburg. There she is jointly responsible for the management and analysis of the panel data that OSA has within its own management, the OSA Labour Force Panel and OSA Labour Demand Panel.

Pieter van Winden is a senior researcher at the Netherlands Economic Institute (NEI), which is part of the ECORYS group. He studied econometrics at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam and is a specialist in quantitative economic research in the field of the labour market, social security and education.