

## Dr. Damiaan Persyn

### HOME ADDRESS

Van Ysendyckstraat 6  
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Naamsestraat 61 – bus 3550  
3000 Leuven  
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### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### **KULeuven, VIVES** **2009 – Present**

*Post-doctoral Researcher*

- Research work on different topics, including fiscal federalism, factor mobility, labour market policy and economic geography.
- Lecturer of undergraduate economics.

#### **KULeuven, LICOS** **2003 – 2008**

*Research and Teaching Assistant*

- Teaching assistant for the courses ‘Economics of Transition’, ‘Labour Economics’ and ‘Advanced Labour Economics’.
- Research work on different topics, including mainly empirical work on firm level panel data analysis and theoretical work on trade and factor mobility.

#### **The Irish College in Leuven** **2005 – 2006**

*Course holder*

- Lecturer of the course ‘The Economics of European Integration’

#### **Graduate Institute for International Studies, Geneva** **September 2004 – March 2005**

*Visiting Researcher*

- Research on models of economic geography with non-market wage setting, under supervision of Damien Neven and Richard Baldwin

### EDUCATION

#### **Katholieke Universiteit Leuven** **2003 – Spring 2009**

*Ph.D. in Economics*

- Ph.D. on globalisation, firm mobility and wage formation on unionised labour markets.

Supervisor: Prof. Joep Konings.

Committee members:

- Prof. dr. Hylke Vandenbussche (Université catholique de Louvain)
- Prof. dr. Maarten Goos (KULeuven)
- Prof. dr. Luc Lauwers (KULeuven)
- Prof. dr. Peter Neary (University of Oxford)

#### **KULeuven** **2004 – 2007**

*Master of Science in Statistics*

- Thesis: ‘A Monte-Carlo study comparing methods for handling missing data’.

Promotor: Prof. Geert Verbeke.

#### **KULeuven** **2002 – 2003**

*Master of Science in Economics*

- Specialisation: international economics.

- Thesis: ‘Holdups, Hostages and Bargaining in Space; a spatial duopsony model with interlinking agents’.

Promotor: Prof. dr. Johan Swinnen.

**Humboldt Universität zu Berlin**  
1999 – 2002

*Diplom Volkswirt*  
(*B.A. in Economics*)

- Specialisation: econometrics and statistics
- Thesis: ‘Testing the Real Options Approach to Migration.’ Promotor: Prof. dr. Wolfgang Härdle

**KU Brussel**  
1997 – 1999

*Kandidaat in de Economische Wetenschappen*  
(*B.A. in Economics*)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Job Market Paper

‘[Union Wage Demands with Footloose Firms](#)’

LICOS discussion paper 228

First round ‘revise and resubmit’ at Regional Science and Urban Economics

This paper analyses the wage demand of a sector-level monopoly union facing internationally mobile firms. A simple two-country economic geography model describes how firms relocate in response to international differences in production costs and market size. In contrast to standard models, the union sets wages while fully taking into account the international mobility of firms. If the international differences in labour productivity and market size are limited then lower foreign wages and lower trade costs necessarily lead to lower union wage demands. If there exist large differences between the countries in terms of productivity and market size these intuitive properties do not always hold. In this case a decrease in foreign wages lowers the equilibrium number of firms in the home country, but the change in agglomeration and dispersion forces then may simultaneously make the remaining firms less responsive to wage changes, lowering the sector-level labour demand elasticity and leading to higher union wage demands.

### International publications

2011 ‘[Globalisation, concentration and footloose firms: in search of the main cause of the declining labour share](#)’

(with John Hutchinson) Review of World Economics, forthcoming

2008 ‘[Error Correction Based Cointegration Tests for Panel Data](#)’

(with Joakim Westerlund) Stata Journal 8 (2), 232-241.

### Under submission

‘[Union Wage Demands with Footloose Firms](#)’

LICOS discussion paper 228

‘[Functional labor markets in Belgium: evolution over time and intersectoral comparison](#)’

(with Wouter Torfs) Vives Discussion Paper 17

‘[The effect of interregional redistribution on regional growth and convergence](#)’

(with Koen Algoed) VIVES Discussion Paper 4

‘[Real option theory and the effect of income on migration](#)’

Mimeo

## Work in progress

‘Explaining the distribution of fiscal transfers between Belgian regions: The effect of political representation’

(with Geert Jennes) Vives Discussion Paper 25

‘Border Effects on Interregional Commuting in Belgium’

mimeo

‘Trade as a Wage Disciplining Device’

LICOS Discussion paper 210; IZA Discussion Paper 3786

## Other papers

2009 ‘De regionale impact van de economische crisis’

Vives Beleidspaper 11

2009 ‘Gezocht: structurele in plaats van conjuncturele maatregelen’

(with Koen Algoed) Vives beleidspaper 3

2008 ‘Zin of onzin van structurele lastenverminderingen’

(with Joep Konings) LICOS discussion paper 212

2006 ‘Trade and International Race-to-the-bottom Wage Competition’

LICOS discussion paper 176

## LANGUAGES

Spoken and written Dutch, English and German. Good knowledge of French.

## COMPUTER SKILLS

Statistical Packages: Stata, Matlab (Octave), S-plus (R), Ox, SAS, XploRe, Limdep

Operating Systems: GNU/Linux (Debian), Windows.

Specific Interests: L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Emacs, Lisp

## REFERENCES

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