

## Call for research projects for the NBB 2024 biennial conference

### Deglobalisation, decarbonisation and digitalisation: How the three Ds affect firm pricing, markups and productivity

In recent years, the global economy has been affected by a number of supply-side forces. One such force is structural developments. These include, to name but a few: the intensification of digitalisation, automation and robotisation; the acceleration of decarbonisation; and the ongoing debate on deglobalisation/regionalisation, informed by the search for greater supply chain resilience as well as heightened geopolitical tensions and more protectionist policies. All of these developments are expected to impact the behaviour of firms, shape their productivity and affect their market power or price-setting behaviour. In these various areas, firm responses may be extremely heterogeneous. This heterogeneity should be well documented, understood and, finally, embodied in macroeconomic models in order to design relevant and accurate policies.

The following non-exhaustive list of issues can be addressed at the conference:

#### 1. Deglobalisation

- How have supply chain disruptions, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and/or Russia's invasion of Ukraine, affected producer and consumer prices?
- To what extent are firms actively reshoring, nearshoring or friendshoring their international activities, and how does this affect their productivity and market power?
- What does a reconfiguration of global or regional value chains mean for firms and/or the economy at large?

#### 2. Decarbonisation

- How do carbon price or other climate related shocks affect firm productivity and their investment decisions?
- How does a carbon price interact with overlapping non-price climate policy instruments, such as those on low-carbon innovation?
- Is decarbonisation efficiency-enhancing?

#### 3. Digitalisation

- How does digitalisation reshape efficiency, markups and price setting?
- How does digitalisation interact with industrial organisation in reshaping GVCs?
- How does digitalisation influence the type of workers hired by firms? How do STEM labour shortages limit productivity gains?

For this colloquium, the NBB welcomes both empirical and theoretical contributions, with analysis at firm, sector or aggregate levels.

Proposals for (ongoing) research projects will be accepted through 10 September 2023. Acceptance of proposed projects will be notified by 29 September 2023. Projects will start in October 2023 and run until the October 2024 conference at which the research findings will be presented. Selected projects will receive financial support of €40,000. Proposals and requests for further information should be sent to [nbbconference2024@nbb.be](mailto:nbbconference2024@nbb.be).