



## Squaring Higher Wages and Competitiveness

September 2 & 3, 2015  
Anadolu Hotel of Downtown Ankara, Turkey

### *Agenda*

#### September 2, 2015

09:30 – 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 10:30 Welcome Address

#### 10:30 – 12:15 **Session I: Global Wage Debates and Competitiveness**

“The answer [to restoring competitiveness] is as simple to say as it is difficult to do – follow Germany’s example and keep wages low” (Mickey Levy, Blenheim Capital Management, [VoxEU column](#)). Is wage moderation effective in restoring competitiveness? Are there strategies for raising both wages and competitiveness or is a trade-off inevitable? What is the developing country experience?

**Moderator: Prakash Loungani**

Co-Chair, Jobs & Growth Working Group  
International Monetary Fund Research Department

**Sangheon Lee**

Special Advisor to ILO Deputy Director-General for Policy  
on Economic & Social Issues  
International Labour Organization

**Catherine L. Mann**

Chief Economist  
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

**Subir Gokarn**

Director of Research, Brookings India  
Former Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India

12:15 – 13:15

Lunch

(served in the Söğütözü A'la Carte Restaurant, Anadolu Hotel)

Special thanks to:



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13:15 – 15:00

## Session II: Trade and Wages

The impact of trade on wages is one of the most analyzed and most controversial topics in economics ([Krugman, 2008](#)). What does recent evidence show? The debate is heating up about the likely wage and employment effects of Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)—a proposed new regional trade agreement. This session will explore the nexus of trade and wages and how the TPP could affect wages and employment in signatory countries.

**Moderator: Sabina Dewan**

President & Executive Director  
JustJobs Network

**Edward Gresser**

Head of Research  
Office of the United States Trade Representative

**Nguyen Thang**

President  
Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences

**John Evans**

Chief Economist, International Trade Union Confederation  
General Secretary of the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD

15:00 – 15:30

Coffee Break

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15:30 – 17:30

### Session III: Global Minimum Wage Debates

[“Raising the minimum wage is so hot right now”](#) (Dylan Matthews, Washington Post). How should minimum wages be set? Does one minimum wage fit all? The sessions will review the experience of several countries, based in part on the JustJobs Network’s joint report: *Global Wage Debates: Politics or Economics?*

**Moderator:** **Knut Panknin**  
Programme Officer, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung  
Fellow, JustJobs Network

**Presentation:** **Prakash Loungani**  
Co-Chair, Jobs & Growth Working Group  
International Monetary Fund Research Department

**Interventions:** **Gregory Randolph**  
Deputy Director  
JustJobs Network

**Li Shi**  
Professor of Economics  
Beijing Normal University

**Aalia Cassim**  
Senior Researcher  
Development Policy Research Unit, University of Cape Town

**Fabio Tatei**  
Faculty of Economics, Business and Accounting  
University of São Paulo

**Yusuf Soner Baskaya**  
General Manager  
Communications and Foreign Relations Department  
Central Bank of Turkey

17:30 – 18:00

Closing

**Michael Ettliger**  
University of New Hampshire  
Founding Director, Carsey School of Public Policy

18:00 – 20:00

Reception

### September 3, 2015

09:30 – 11:30

**JustJobs Network Member Meeting** (*invitation only*)

13:00 – 15:00

Special Luncheon with **German Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Andrea Nahles** (*invitation only*)

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