Heterogeneous effects of deep regional trade agreements on international migration

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Abstract
This study empirically studies the effects of deep trade agreements on bilateral migration flows by estimating the structural gravity model for migration. Using a sample with 30 OECD destination countries and 201 origin countries over the period 1995-2015, I find that signing a trade agreement stimulates international migration flows strongly. I also find that signing a deeper trade agreement increases migration flows from Southern countries to Northern countries and that among migration-related provisions the legally enforceable labor-related provisions, illegal immigration provisions, and visa-and-asylum provisions affect migration flows from South to North more strongly.

Keywords: deep trade agreements; international migration

JEL classification: F13; F22

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