

# 2022 JOINT RESEARCH PROGRAM

## CEMLA Workshop on Labor Markets

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**August 11 - 12, 2022 – Mexico City (digital)**

Automation, a form of technology-enabled disruption, consists of workers being increasingly replaced by technology; it implies that existing business models are being supplanted by new models, often based on technology, that bring more efficiency to the production, sale and/or distribution of goods and services.

In the past decade, automation developed at an overwhelming speed. The technology adoption process was drastically accelerated by the unexpected COVID-19 shock, and has been more pronounced in labor-intensive sectors characterized by predictable physical jobs and low-skilled workers, such as agricultural field workers, maintenance workers, among others.

Covid-19 disruptions caused structural changes in labor markets: transitions to informality or inactivity, job ladders destruction, work hours declined, workers were temporarily laid off, unemployment rose, and workers reallocated across sectors. In addition, a mix of economic policies was adopted to cushion the effects of the crisis, such as unemployment insurance, direct transfers, tax waivers or delays.

More recently, labor market conditions have improved markedly in most countries, particularly in the U.S., which most analysts consider to be quite tight. These changes make gauging the labor market dynamics more difficult. As some central banks have an employment target and all closely follow the evolution of economic activity, monitoring the labor market is key. Considering the aforementioned, the 2022 Joint Research Program focuses on the labor market.

## Guidelines

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Proposals should include: the rationale for the research, a basic literature review, possible methodologies, and the main testable hypotheses.

Two invited advisors will be available to guide the research projects. To foster inter-institutional collaboration, take advantage of the different strengths of the central banks, and generate knowledge transfer among researchers, co-authored research projects are welcome between advisors and participants as a result of the Joint Research Program.

To increase the visibility of the papers and facilitate the communication of the knowledge creation that is the objective of the Joint Research Program, the final manuscripts shall

be submitted for consideration to a Special Issue of the *Latin American Journal of Central Banking* (LAJCB). The latter will provide its infrastructure to carry out the editorial process. Proposals should include: the rationale for the research, a basic literature review, possible methodologies, and the main testable hypotheses.

## Invited Advisors

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Laura Juárez, *El Colegio de México*  
Carlos Urrutia, *ITAM*

## Special Issue Award

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An award will be offered to the author(s) of the best papers of the Special Issue of the LAJCB, which will receive a compensation of 2,000 USD and 1,000 USD for the first- and second-best paper, respectively. All other included papers in the Special Issue will receive a compensation of 250 USD each.

## Submission

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Central bank researchers from CEMLA's Associate or Collaborating Members interested in participating should send their research proposals or research projects already underway in a Word or PDF file to the e-mail address [JointResearch@cemla.org](mailto:JointResearch@cemla.org), no later than June 3, 2022.

## Important Dates

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June 3, 2022. Submission deadline  
June 8, 2022. Notification of acceptance  
July 14 - 15, 2022. Academic advisory meetings  
August 11 - 12, 2022. CEMLA Workshop on Labor Markets  
December 15, 2022. Deadline for final manuscript submissions to the LAJCB

## Scientific Committee

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Laura Juárez, *El Colegio de México*  
Nelson R. Ramírez-Rondán, *CEMLA*  
Benjamín Tello, *CEMLA*  
Carlos Urrutia, *ITAM*

## Organizing Committee

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Nelson R. Ramírez-Rondán, *CEMLA*  
Benjamín Tello, *CEMLA*