

Placement Officer: Peter Fredriksson peter.fredriksson@nek.uu.se +46 (0) 18-471 5104
Placement Officer: Luca Repetto luca.repetto@nek.uu.se +46 (0) 18-471 1637

CONTACT INFORMATION Uppsala University E-mail: vivika.halapuu@nek.uu.se
Department of Economics Phone: +46 (0) 76-323 2051
Box 513
751 20 Uppsala, Sweden

REFERENCES Professor Lena Hensvik Professor Kristiina Huttunen
Department of Economics, VATT Institute for Economic Research
Uppsala University and Aalto University
Phone: +46 (0) 18-471 1633 Phone: + 358 (0) 50-549 3368
E-mail: lena.hensvik@nek.uu.se E-mail: kristiina.huttunen@vatt.fi

Professor Oskar Nordström Skans
Department of Economics,
Uppsala University
Phone: +46 (0) 18-471 5126
E-mail: oskar.nordstrom_skans@nek.uu.se

PERSONAL INFORMATION Date of birth: 31.12.1987. Sex: Female. Citizenship: Estonian

FIELDS OF INTEREST Primary field: Labor Economics
Secondary field: Economics of Education

EDUCATION Ph.D. in Economics, Uppsala University, Sweden, 2015-2021 (expected)
Visiting Scholar, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University, Spring 2018.
Parental leave, 2019
M.A. in Economics, University of Tartu, Estonia, 2009-2011
Erasmus exchange program at University College London, Fall 2009
B.A. in Economics (diploma *cum laude*), University of Tartu, Estonia, 2006-2009

AFFILIATIONS Uppsala Center for Labor Studies (UCLS), since 2016

JOB MARKET PAPER **“Access to Education and Disability Insurance Claims”**

Abstract: The paper provides the first causal evidence of how access to education affects disability insurance (DI) claims among low-skilled youths. The research design exploits recent changes in high school eligibility criteria among a set of low-performing compulsory school graduates in Sweden. The results show that the immediate inflow into the DI system increased by 5.1 percentage points among the students who were excluded from standard high school programs. The fact that outflow from DI is very low (half of all young claimants remain in the system after 10 years) together with auxiliary findings indicating that the impact grows during the short follow-up period suggest that the effect is likely to persist over many years. The results highlight that the design of education systems is a crucial determinant of DI claims among young people and that reforms which limit low-skilled youths' access to education can have lasting detrimental effects on their labor supply.

WORK IN
PROGRESS

“Vocational Graduation Standards and Labor Market Entry”

Abstract: This paper studies how stricter graduation requirements affect vocational high school graduates’ early career outcomes using the increase in graduation standards in Swedish vocational high schools. An important feature of the reform is that it increased the requirements of both general and occupation-specific skills. I compare job-finding rates and job match quality of academically similar students just below and above a new graduation threshold using a difference-in-differences design. I do not find any impact of the new graduation standards on the overall job finding probability, but students who passed the new threshold became more likely to start their careers in relevant occupations (as proxied by coworkers’ field of education). These results are likely to be driven by the fact that the reform made occupations-specific skills more salient among those who passed the new graduation threshold.

“On the Right Track? Sorting on Gains and High School Choice” – with Lena Hensvik

Abstract: We study how Swedish high school students match with programs given their skill endowments at the time of choosing. Using detailed administrative data on high school admissions and earlier school achievement, we construct a multi-dimensional measure of program match quality, reflecting the extent to which students select into programs with skill requirements that align with their skill portfolio. Our results suggest that female and low SES students make relatively worse program choices than males and students whose parents have at least some college education. Students with a more appropriate skill-set for a given program are more likely to remain in the program, to complete high school on time and they also have higher post-graduation earnings. Better information about how students’ relative strengths and weaknesses comply with the skill requirements of programs could prevent costly educational, and consequently occupational mismatch.

PUBLICATIONS

Halapuu, V., Paas, T., Tammaru, T., Schütz, A. (2014). Is Institutional Trust Related to Pro-Immigrant Attitudes? A Pan-European Evidence. *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, Vol. 54, No. 5-6, pp. 572 - 593.

Paas, T., Halapuu, V. (2012). Attitudes towards Immigrants and the Integration of Ethnically Diverse Societies. *Eastern Journal of European Studies*, 3(2), 161 – 17

POLICY REPORTS

Fridberg, T., Rosdahl, A., Halapuu, V., Valk, A., Malin, A., Hämäläinen, R., Anderssen, A. F., Bjorkeng, B., Størset, H., Sønnesyn, J., Larsson, A.-C., Lind, P., Mellander, E. (2015). *Adult Skills in the Nordic Region: Key Information-Processing Skills among Adults in the Nordic Region*. Denmark: Nordic Council of Ministers.

Halapuu, V. (2015). *Role of Skills in Determining Gender and Ethnic Wage Gaps in Estonia*: Tartu: Estonian Ministry of Education and Research. (Available in Estonian only.)

Halapuu, V. (2015). *Skills Mismatch on the Estonian Labor Market*: Tartu: Estonian Ministry of Education and Research. (Available in Estonian only.)

Halapuu, V., Valk, A. (2013). *Adults’ Skills in Estonia and in the World: First Results of the PIAAC Study*. Tartu: Estonian Ministry of Education and Research. (Available in Estonian only.)

SEMINARS AND
CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

2020: Uppsala

2018: Stockholm-Uppsala Education Economics Workshop, Stockholm; IFAU Research Seminar, Uppsala; IPR Labor Session, Northwestern University

2017: IFAU Research Seminar, Uppsala

2015: PIAAC Conference in Tartu, Estonia; Seminar on the Nordic PIAAC database in Stockholm, Sweden; Nordic PIAAC Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark

2012: Conference “Increasing Heterogeneity and its Impact” at IAB in Nuremberg, Germany

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<i>Econometric Theory</i> , Master’s level, Teaching assistant for Assistant Professor Luca Repetto, Spring 2017, Uppsala University
GRANTS AND AWARDS	Scholarship for research and graduate studies abroad, Jan Wallanders and Tom Hedelius foundation, 2016 (approx. \$49,900) Scholarship for studies abroad, KPMG Baltics AS, 2019 (approx. \$1,500) Scholarship for studies abroad, Erich Rannu Family Scholarship (approx. \$3,800)
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	<i>PIAAC program analyst</i> , Estonian Ministry of Education and Research, 2010-2015, in October 2014 I was given the tasks of national project manager as well. Main responsibilities: analyzing the data of the OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC), writing national reports, organizing and conducting analysis trainings for the potential data users in Estonia, taking care of the communication of the results of the survey. Within the Nordic PIAAC Network collaboration I worked mostly on harmonizing the definitions of register variables to be merged with the survey data and on merging the Estonian PIAAC data with data from selected registers. <i>Research Assistant</i> , Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, University of Tartu, 03.2012-03.2013 Analysis department for small finance, AS Hansapank (current Swedbank Estonia), internship, June – August 2008
ACTIVITIES	<i>Economics Association</i> , Board member, Uppsala, 2015-2016 <i>Female Economists Network in Stockholm and Uppsala</i> , Member, Since 2015 <i>Economic Society</i> at Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at University of Tartu, Co-founder, 2011
PROGRAMMING SKILLS	Stata (advanced), Latex (advanced), R (beginner)
LANGUAGE SKILLS	Estonian (native), English (fluent), Swedish (intermediate), Russian (beginner)