Contents

1 Introduction

Lambert van der Laan & Santos M. Ruesga 1
1.1 Western Europe: the rise and fall of the regulation model 3
1.2 Eastern Europe: changing policies and institutions 5
1.3 The present book 8

Part One: The general framework 13

2 The spatial-institutional perspective on the labour market in Europe

Lambert van der Laan & Santos M. Ruesga 15
2.1 Three trends in economic thinking 15
  2.1.1 Humanisation and socialisation 15
  2.1.2 Localisation 16
  2.1.3 Theoretical integration 17
2.2 The spatial-institutional perspective 18
2.3 Regional labour markets 20

3 Setting the stage: general changes on the European labour market

Lambert van der Laan 27
3.1 Introduction 27
3.2 Quartairisation of jobs and functions 27
  3.2.1 Economic, social and cultural capital 30
  3.2.2 The information society 32
3.3 Developments in the supply of labour 34
3.3.1 Ageing
3.3.2 Migration
3.3.3 Participation
3.3.4 Feminisation
3.3.5 A macro-spatial summary of changes in labour supply

3.4 Macro-institutional structures, policies and labour market performance
3.4.1 Institutional structure and labour market performance
3.4.2 Policies and labour market performance
3.4.3 Conclusion

3.5 General conclusions

4 Regional and institutional changes in European labour markets
   Santos M. Ruesga & Carlos Resa-Nestares

4.1 Introduction
4.2 Labour markets in Western Europe: convergence and divergence
4.3 Labour markets in Eastern Europe
4.4 Conclusion
   Annex I
   Annex II

Part Two: Western Europe

5 Regional labour markets and institutions in the United Kingdom
   David Armstrong & David H. Blackaby

5.1 Introduction
5.2 Regional disparities in unemployment in the United Kingdom
5.3 The policy context
5.3.1 Labour market policy and the regional problem
5.3.2 Unions and pay bargaining
5.3.3 Labour mobility and vocational training
5.4 Labour market adjustments in the United Kingdom
5.4.1 Training
5.4.2 Labour mobility
5.4.3 Wage flexibility
8.3.2 Regional disparities  168
8.3.3 Regional labour policies  169
8.4 Changing regional imbalances in the Spanish labour market  172
8.4.1 General changes in regional unemployment  172
8.4.2 Analysis of inter- and intra-regional disparities in unemployment levels  176
8.5 Regional labour supply and demand in Spain: an explanatory model  178
8.6 Summary and conclusions  181

9 Labour market institutions and the North-South divide in Italy
Luigi Bonatti & Carlo Borzaga  187
9.1 Introduction  187
9.2 Increasing North-South dualism  189
9.3 The polarisation of the labour market  193
9.4 The vicious circle perpetuating the disparities between the North and the South  199
9.5 Policy implications  205
9.6 Conclusion  208

Part Three: Eastern Europe  213

10 Institutions and regional labour markets in Bulgaria
Katia Vladimirova & Rossitsa Rangelova  215
10.1 Introduction  215
10.2 The economic and institutional framework of the labour market  217
10.3 Regional labour markets  219
10.3.1 Impact of demographics on regional labour markets  219
10.3.2 Development of the regional employment  220
10.3.3 Development of the (regional) unemployment  223
10.4 Labour market institutions  227
10.4.1 Labour offices, private job centres and other intermediates  227
10.4.2 Local authorities and tripartite cooperations  230
10.5 Employment policies  231
10.5.1 Unemployment insurance and benefits  232
10.5.2 Active policies  233
10.5.3 Effects of the institutional changes  234
10.6 Summary and future activities  235
11 Institutions and regional labour markets in the Czech Republic
   Jaromír Gottvald & Milan Simek

11.1 The socio-economic background of the Czech labour market
    239

11.2 The regional structure
    243
    11.2.1 Historical background
    245
    11.2.2 Administrative regions
    246
    11.2.3 Main features of the regions

11.3 Actors on the regional labour markets
    249

11.4 Employment policy
    250
    11.4.1 Basic objectives
    250
    11.4.2 Main policies
    251
    11.4.3 Policy implementation
    253

11.5 Future developments of labour market policies and the institutional framework
    255

12 Regional labour market institutions in Slovakia
   Magdaléna Hladíkovská

12.1 Introduction
    257

12.2 The general socio-economic setting of the labour market
    257

12.3 The regional differentiation of the socio-economic setting
    260

12.4 Actors on the labour market
    263
    12.4.1 Governmental organisations
    263
    12.4.2 Employer’s organisations
    264
    12.4.3 Trade unions
    265
    12.4.4 Independent employment services

12.5 Governmental labour market policies
    266

12.6 Regional actors and policies
    269
    12.6.1 Regional state administration
    269
    12.6.2 Local government
    269
    12.6.3 Regional policies
    270

12.7 The results of the labour market policies
    271

12.8 Future developments
    272

13 Institutions and regional labour markets in Rumania
   Constanța Partenie, Dorin Jula,
   Daniela Constantin, Cornelia Pârlog
   & Calin Dinga

13.1 Introduction
    275

13.2 Socio-economic conditions of the labour market
    276

13.3 Institutional reform and labour market policies
    279
13.4 The negotiation game
13.5 Regional disequilibria of the labour market
13.6 Regional unemployment
  13.6.1 New job-searchers on the labour market
  13.6.2 Regional migration of the unemployed
13.7 Regional policy and the labour market

About the authors