

## Call for papers

### Journal of Economics and Statistics / Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik

#### Special Issue “Atypical Employment”

##### Guest editors

- Regina T. Riphahn, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
- Conny Wunsch, Universität Basel

##### Topic

Globalization, technological progress, and digitization fundamentally transform labour markets. They not only affect the tasks associated with specific jobs and the skills they require but also by whom and how they are carried out. New technologies lower transaction costs, making it easier for firms to outsource tasks, and for individuals to offer and market their services and to compete with firms. This blurs the lines between dependent work and self-employment and as a result, atypical employment is growing rapidly. However, systematic measurements of the prevalence of different types of atypical employment are largely missing because they are difficult to obtain for some types of atypical employment.

Beyond measurement, atypical employment also raises a number of other challenges. First, its legal status is often unclear and legal protection often missing. Second, it imposes earnings uncertainty on workers as future “gigs” may not materialize. Third, taxation can create both advantages and disadvantages for non-traditional workers that need to be understood better. Finally, social protection systems are typically designed for the archetypical full-time dependent employee with a permanent contract. Work patterns deviating from this model can lead to gaps in social protection coverage. Globalization and digitalization are likely to exacerbate this discrepancy as new technologies make it easier and cheaper to offer and find work online, and online work platforms have experienced spectacular growth in recent years. Rising numbers of non-standard workers also threaten to erode the contribution base and thus revenues of social protection systems. If only some categories of workers are covered by social protection – and liable to pay social contributions – while others are not, firms have an incentive to shift work onto those workers who enjoy the least protection.

To contribute to a better understanding of these issues, we invite submissions to a special issue on the measurement, economic and societal consequences, opportunities, challenges and possible solutions as well as risks and possible risk mitigation strategies.

Papers should be submitted in English to <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jbnst> as Original Article indicating that it is submitted for the Special Issue: Atypical Employment.

##### Dates

Submission of full papers: 31.12.2022

First round decisions: no later than 31.3.2023

Submission of revised papers: before 1.7.2023