

Jim Love is Professor of Economics and International Business at Aston Business School. His research interests include the motivations and effects of foreign direct investment, including working on issues relating to knowledge spillovers from FDI and their role in stimulating productivity, and the determinants and effects of firm-level innovation. Professor Love's recent research includes examining FDI in the UK, exporting in the US service sector and its links to productivity, and the link between the motivation for FDI and spillover effects on domestic productivity and labour demand. He was also recently involved in a NESTA-funded project examining firm-level innovation capability for nine sectors of the UK economy. Professor Love has held visiting chairs and fellowships at Copenhagen Business School and at Wolfson College and the Judge Business School, University of Cambridge.

Nigel Driffield is Professor of International Business and Head of the Economics and Strategy Group at Aston Business School. While he has a background in economics, Professor Driffield has published more than 50 papers in academic journals, in a wide range of literatures, including regional science, regional studies, international business, finance, industrial economics and labour economics, statistics and management science. At the centre of much of his work is the national and regional policy response to international capital flows. A current Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) funded project is concerned with links between corruption, foreign investment and firm performance. His work was initially funded by an ESRC doctoral studentship award, and continued with support from the European Commission (DGXVI) the World Bank as well as Nuffield Foundation. He has had three projects funded by the ESRC. He has, with others carried out policy analysis or evaluation, worth in excess of £750,000 for BIS (formally DTI and UKTI), OECD UNCTAD, the World Bank and European Commission. He has also served on a HM Treasury expert panel on FDI.

Stefano Menghinello holds a degree in economics from "L.Bocconi" University, Italy and a Ph.D in industrial economics from the University of Birmingham, UK. He has more than 10 years of professional experience in the production of official statistics at ISTAT (the Italian National Statistical Institute) where he has been recently appointed as head of division of foreign trade and enterprise international activities statistics. He is also a newly appointed member of the OECD Board of the Globalisation of the industry WP. In parallel to that, he holds a senior research fellow position at Aston University, Birmingham UK, also lecturing on industrial economics at the University of Florence, Italy. He has a relevant publication track, including JIBS, JEG and Italian leading economic reviews, focusing on regional development, business clusters and MNE location and knowledge transfer. He has recently carried out, as a consultant for the OECD, some feasibility studies on the use of international commercial databases for micro-data analysis and development of national as well as local business demography indicators.