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„Impact of the pro-natalist policy instruments on fertility in OECD countries in 1991-2017”

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SUMMARY

The doctoral dissertation contributes to the field of demographic economics. This study assesses the impact of pro-natalist policy instruments acting separately and creating interactions on fertility in OECD countries in 1991-2017.

The research conducted in this dissertation allows to conclude that the pro-natalist policy consisting in the implementation of a combination of specific tools results in a greater increase in the fertility rate than the separate and independent use of individual instruments. Based on this conclusion, recommendations for the pro-natalist policy were formulated.

The dissertation is divided into seven chapters. The first presents the impact of demographic changes on the functioning of labour markets and pension systems in high-income economies. The second chapter is dedicated to the presentation of theoretical concepts explaining demographic changes and to the identification of fertility determinants. In the next chapter, the concepts of social policy, population policy and pro-natalist policy are explained. The doctrinal conditions of the pro-natalist policy and models of family policy are also presented. Chapter four groups the state policy tools affecting fertility, dividing them into ex ante and ex post instruments. Their theoretical influence on fertility and labour supply decisions are presented. The next chapter of the dissertation contains a discussion of the existing empirical literature on the effectiveness of pro-natalist policy instruments in economically developed countries. In the sixth chapter, using various variants of the panel data model, the correctness of the research hypotheses and - on this basis - the thesis, were verified. The last chapter of the dissertation is dedicated to the formulation of recommendations for a pro-natalist

policy, the implementation of which may lead to an increase in the fertility rate in economically developed countries, i.e. those struggling with the problem of sub-replacement fertility.

The following research methods were used in the work: literature studies, statistical data analysis and econometric modelling.