

2024 Joint Research Program

CEMLA Workshop on The Macroeconomics of Inflation in the Post-Covid-19 Era

CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS AND PROPOSALS

August 15-16, 2024 – Mexico City (digital)

Recent developments in inflation in the U.S. and worldwide are posing exciting and ineludible research questions.

Sizable fiscal stimulus in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, compounded by monetary policy changes undertaken well before 2020 (quantitative easing in major advanced economies), were all anticipating an uncontrollable process of inflationary pressures. Supply chains wrecked by the pandemic and the shortage of grains, fertilizers, and natural gas in the context of the Russian-Ukraine conflict in early 2022 only aggravated the inflation crisis by derailing inflation expectations, affecting the world differently, depending on the level of development (food inflation in emerging economies), strong energy dependence (natural gas in Europe), and working of labor markets (robust wage rates and low unemployment in the U.S.).

Put bluntly, in nearly two years, U.S. central bankers and researchers alike have passed from a state of worry to a one of relief. While traditional macroeconomic models would have suggested a hard landing by bringing inflation down at the cost of output losses and high unemployment, a posteriori, inflation seems to be converging to levels consistent with targets, though not yet decidedly, with traditional measures of slack signaling anything but a recession.

The state and functioning of labor markets may prove key to understanding the so-called immaculate disinflation. The COVID-19 pandemic has constituted itself a transformative event by shaking the foundations or structural patterns of labor markets and the macroeconomy. Flexible work arrangements, the acceleration in the adoption of automation processes, and green technologies, all altering the composition of the labor force, could ultimately lead to higher productivity and, therefore, challenge, from a measurement perspective, the distinction between the long and the short of the macroeconomy.

Certainly, the panorama of inflation and the role of central banking amidst the recurrence of supply shocks and demand shocks stemming from labor markets differs across countries and regions. Therefore, this Call for Research Projects and Proposals, as part of the 2024 CEMLA Joint Research Program, aims to further our understanding

of recent developments in inflation from a global and local perspective, enriching the lessons that can be drawn from heterogeneous experiences and policy tools deployed in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Throughout the 2024 CEMLA Joint Research Program, prospective participants will receive one-on-one feedback from two academic advisors during the advisory meetings and will present their papers in the CEMLA Workshop. Participants are expected to complete their manuscripts for submission to the *Latin American Journal of Central Banking* (LAJCB) by December 20, 2024.

Guidelines

Near-to-final manuscripts and extended abstracts are welcome. Short abstracts are also invited, but preference will be given to clearly structured proposals around well-developed ideas.

Two invited advisors will be available to guide the research projects. To increase their visibility and disseminate their contributions, the final manuscripts shall be submitted for consideration to a Special Issue of the *Latin American Journal of Central Banking* (LAJCB), following the conventional peer-review process.

Invited Advisors

Daniel Chiquiar, ITAM

Javier García-Cicco, Universidad de San Andrés

Research Projects or Proposals Submission

Central bank researchers from CEMLA's Associate or Collaborating Members interested in participating should send their research projects or proposals in a Word or PDF file to the e-mail address JointResearch@cemla.org by May 10, 2024.

LAJCB Publication

All accepted papers in the LAJCB will receive a compensation of 1,000 USD each, which CEMLA will fund. The monetary prize will be divided in equal parts among each paper's authors. If the paper participates in any other CEMLA award, it will only be eligible for the monetary prize once.

Important Dates

May 10, 2024. Submission deadline

May 17, 2024. Notification of acceptance

June 27-28, 2024. Academic advisory first meeting

August 15-16, 2024. CEMLA Workshop on The Macroeconomics of Inflation in the Post-Covid-19 Era

October 17-18, 2024. Academic advisory second meeting

December 20, 2024. Deadline for final manuscript submissions to the LAJCB

Scientific Committee

Daniel Chiquiar, *ITAM*

Javier García-Cicco, *Universidad de San Andrés*

Gustavo Leyva, *CEMLA*

Nelson R. Ramírez-Rondán, *CEMLA*

Organizing Committee

Gustavo Leyva, *CEMLA*

Nelson R. Ramírez-Rondán, *CEMLA*