

## THE EFFECTS OF LIBERALIZATION AND INNOVATION ON THE LABOR MARKET OF TUNISIAN INDUSTRY

*Terzi Chokri<sup>1</sup>, El Ammari Anis<sup>2</sup> & Bouchrika Ali<sup>3</sup>*

<sup>1,3</sup>*Research Scholar, Department of Quantitative Method, Higher Institute of Management, Gabès University, Tunisia*

<sup>2</sup>*Research Scholar, Department of Finance, Faculty of Economic Sciences and Management of Mahdia,  
Monastir University, Tunisia*

---

**Received: 12 Feb 2018**

**Accepted: 06 Mar 2018**

**Published: 23 Mar 2018**

---

### **ABSTRACT**

*The object of this paper is to estimate the effects of: the exchange liberalization (imports and exports), the technology transfer through foreigner direct investment (FDI) and the innovation (especially strategic innovation), on the Tunisian labor market. In our econometric model which uses static panel data concerning six sectors of the Tunisian manufacturing industry during different periods, the innovation is estimated by upgrade program investments (UPI). Concerning the period, it depends on the situation of Tunisian economy, we have chosen: Macroeconomic stabilization and the structural adjustment program (SAP: 1983-1989), pre-liberalization (1990-1995) and finally Liberalization and the technological innovation (1996-2015). The results of this study found out that the effects of imports and exports vary with the methods and the equations used. It also indicates a positive significant effect of FDI. In spite of the decomposition of employment between skilled and unskilled, the result doesn't show a technological bias.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Globalization, Technology and Strategic Innovation, Technological Bias, Employment, FDI, Tunisian Manufacturing Industries*