Romance or *chimaera*? Industry Policy and Job quality in European Offshore Wind Turbine Manufacturing

Abstract

This paper compares job quality across sites of large offshore wind turbine component manufacturing in three different countries, Denmark, England, and Germany. It compares the three employment systems, production models, and industrial policy in order to find out how these impacted on the sites’ employment strategies and job quality. The paper argues that the institutions of the employment systems, active labour market policy and vocational education and training combined provided for adequately skilled workforce in the context of the respective production model; and that the institutions of employment protection combined with generally lax regulation of temporary work agencies provided for similar numerical flexibility of the workforce across the sites. However, the paper suggests, that the difference in access to jobs in the sector, tenure, and development opportunities across the sites and countries were the result of the quality of the industry policy that impacted on the growth of the sector.

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