

EITC Exam

Choose one of the following topics. The exam consists in a short paper (5 pages, A4, 1,5 spacing, plus references). The paper has to be sent in electronic form (Word or Pdf, OS Windows) to Cristina Colombo (Ccolombo@liuc.it), specifying in the subject “paper EITC”. The deadline for delivering the paper is June 10th 2003.

Topic 1)

With reference to the concept of “systems of innovation” outline the role of knowledge and institutions in the technological development of companies and countries. In particular, and with reference to examples, comment upon at least two of the following:

- a) the role of institutions in shaping innovation in services
- b) the advantages and disadvantages of intellectual property rights
- c) the scope and justification for government interventions in “systems of innovation”.

Topic 2)

Firm size and innovation: the role of small vs. large firms as engines of growth and innovation has been debated in the literature. Provide a critical review of such a debate. In particular, discuss the following points:

- a) the role of incentives and appropriability
- b) differences across industries
- c) differences between large and small firms in the organization of innovative activities